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# NASA Advisory Council Space Operations Committee

NASA Headquarters  
April 16, 2009

# Space Operations Committee

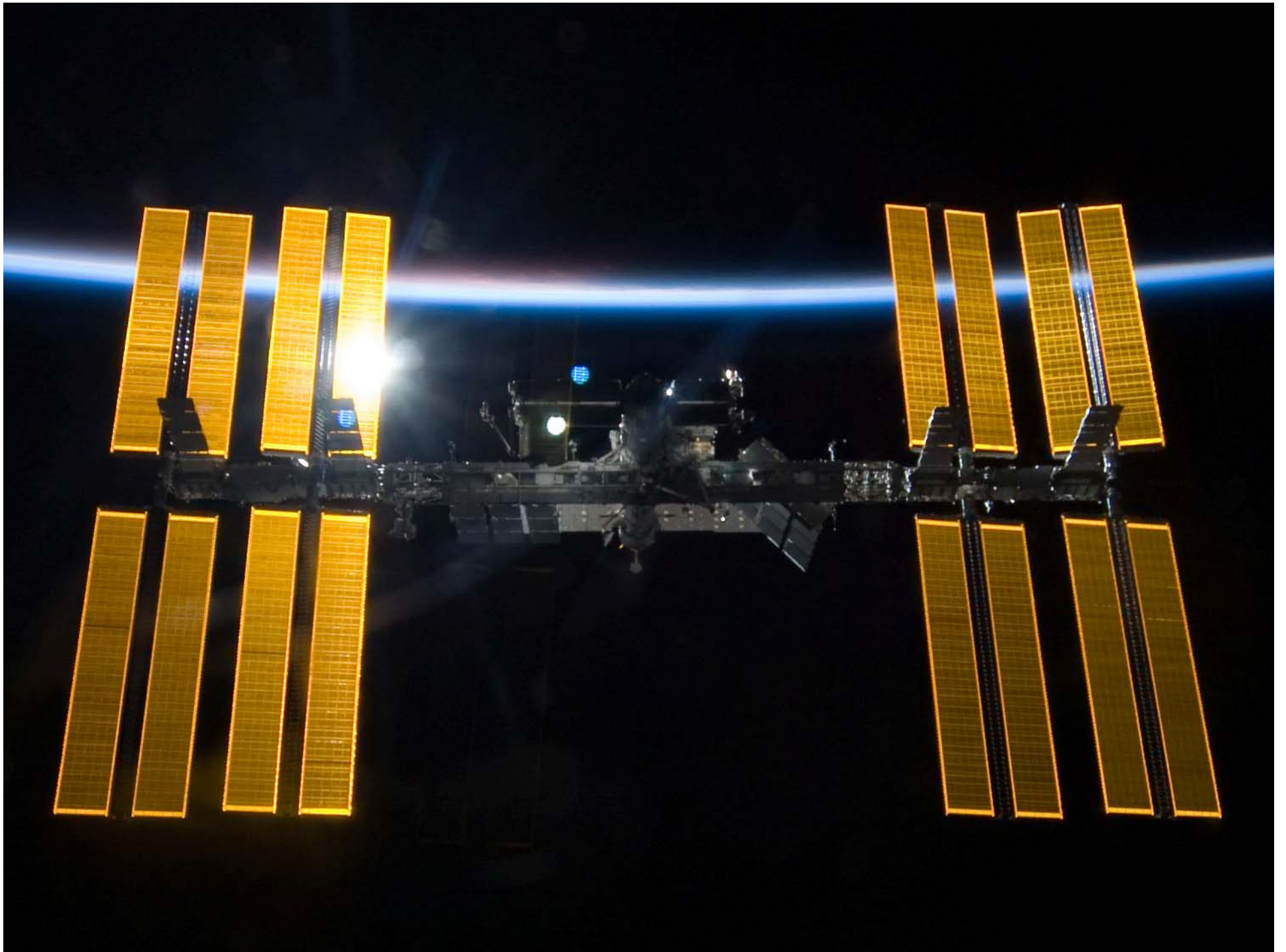
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- Col. Eileen Collins, Chair
  - Dr. Pat Condon
  - Dr. Owen Garriott
  - Mr. Jay Greene
  - Dr. Tom Jones
  - Adm. Benjamin Montoya
- 
- Jacob Keaton, Executive Secretary, NASA

# Summary of Activities

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- ISS Status
- Space Shuttle Manifest Update
- Orbital Debris Update
- Orbital Sciences Corporation Facility Visit
- ISS Research Program Plan Update







# ISS Program Update

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- Complete ISS Assembly
  - All U.S.-built elements are on-orbit
  - Final power system element (S6 solar array) delivered and activated
  - Two major elements remain: Node 3, Japanese External Research Facilities
- On track to achieve 6 crew capability – May 2009 Soyuz Launch
  - Environmental and Life Support Systems activated
  - Water Recovery System (including the Urine Processor Assembly) is on-orbit and functional
- Continuing crew/cargo flight planning
  - 2 Soyuz crew exchanges per year
  - 3-4 Progress cargo re-supply flights per year
  - Japanese HII Transfer Vehicle (HTV) scheduled for September 2009
- Continuing to pre-position critical system spares and outfit laboratories with remaining Shuttle flights



# Flight Assignment Working Group (FAWG) Planning Manifest

NASA Official: John Coggeshall  
USA Project Lead: Burton W. Gibson  
Chart updated: 2-Apr-2009

## 103

Discovery

119 (15A)

3/15/09

S6

## 104

Atlantis

122 (1E)

2/7/08

ICC-Lite  
Columbus  
Module

## 105

Endeavour

126 (ULF2)

11/14/08

MPLM (P)  
LMC

128 (17A)

8/6

(13+1)

3 EVAs

Last Shuttle Crew Rotation

ROEU 751

MPLM(P)

LMC

A

ET-132

131 (19A)

3/18

(12+1)

3 EVAs

ROEU 751

MPLM(P)

LMC

A

ET-135

134 (ULF6)

9/16

ELC3

ROEU 751 & 755

AMS-02

A

ET-138

125 (HST-SM4)

5/12

(11)

30

SLIC

ORUC

ICBC-3D

FSS

MULE

A

ET-130

Ares I-X

7/30

129 (ULF3)

11/12

(11+1)

3 EVAs

SPDU / MISSE 7A

SASA / MISSE 7B

ELC1

ROEU 755 (2)

ELC2

A

ET-133

132 (ULF4)

5/13

(11+1)

3 EVAs

ICC-VLD

ROEU 755

MRM1

A

ET-136

135 (LON 134)

11/7

A

ET-122

127 (2J/A)

6/13

(15+1)

5 EVAs

SPDU / Dragonair

JEM EF

SCSH / PPSU (2)

ELM-ES

ROEU 755

ICC-VLD

SCSH / Ande-2

A

ET-131

130 (20A)

2/4

(12+1)

3 EVAs

Cupola

Node3

A

ET-134

133 (ULF5)

7/29

ELC4

ROEU 751

MPLM(P)

A

ET-137

This chart represents cargo bay configurations approved by the JCAWG

Hardware available to support 6-person crew on ISS

6-person crew presence on ISS following Soyuz 19S (May 2009)

Flight Rate:

FY-5 / CY-6

Launch Beta Angle Cutouts\*

Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov

STS# (ISS#)

19S 5/27

Launch Date

HTV1 9/1

Launch Date

20S 9/30

Launch Date

21S 12/7

Launch Date

22S 4/2

Launch Date

23S May

Launch Date

ATV2 Jun

Launch Date

HTV2 Jul

Launch Date

24S Sep

Launch Date

25S Nov

Launch Date

40P Oct

Launch Date

41P Dec

Launch Date

33P 5/7

Launch Date

34P 7/24

Launch Date

35P 10/15

Launch Date

36P 12/26

Launch Date

37P 2/3

Launch Date

38P Apr

Launch Date

39P Jun

Launch Date

40P Oct

Launch Date

41P Dec

Launch Date

42P Jan

Launch Date

43P Feb

Launch Date

44P Mar

Launch Date

45P Apr

Launch Date

46P May

Launch Date

47P Jun

Launch Date

48P Jul

Launch Date

49P Aug

Launch Date

50P Sep

Launch Date

51P Oct

Launch Date

52P Nov

Launch Date

53P Dec

Launch Date

54P Jan

Launch Date

55P Feb

Launch Date

56P Mar

Launch Date

57P Apr

Launch Date

58P May

Launch Date

59P Jun

Launch Date

60P Jul

Launch Date

61P Aug

Launch Date

62P Sep

Launch Date

63P Oct

Launch Date

64P Nov

Launch Date

65P Dec

Launch Date

66P Jan

Launch Date

67P Feb

Launch Date

68P Mar

Launch Date

69P Apr

Launch Date

70P May

Launch Date

71P Jun

Launch Date

72P Jul

Launch Date

73P Aug

Launch Date

74P Sep

Launch Date

75P Oct

Launch Date

76P Nov

Launch Date

77P Dec

Launch Date

78P Jan

Launch Date

79P Feb

Launch Date

80P Mar

Launch Date

81P Apr

Launch Date

82P May

Launch Date

83P Jun

Launch Date

84P Jul

Launch Date

85P Aug

Launch Date

86P Sep

Launch Date

87P Oct

Launch Date

88P Nov

Launch Date

89P Dec

Launch Date

90P Jan

Launch Date

91P Feb

Launch Date

92P Mar

Launch Date

93P Apr

Launch Date

94P May

Launch Date

95P Jun

Launch Date

96P Jul

Launch Date

97P Aug

Launch Date

98P Sep

Launch Date

99P Oct

Launch Date

100P Nov

Launch Date

101P Dec

Launch Date

102P Jan

Launch Date

103P Feb

Launch Date

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Launch Date

106P May

Launch Date

107P Jun

Launch Date

108P Jul

Launch Date

109P Aug

Launch Date

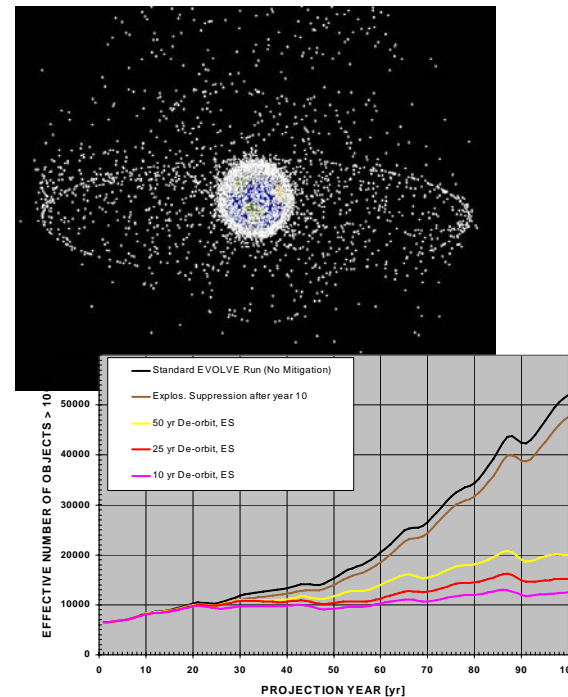
110P Sep

Launch Date



# Orbital Debris Update

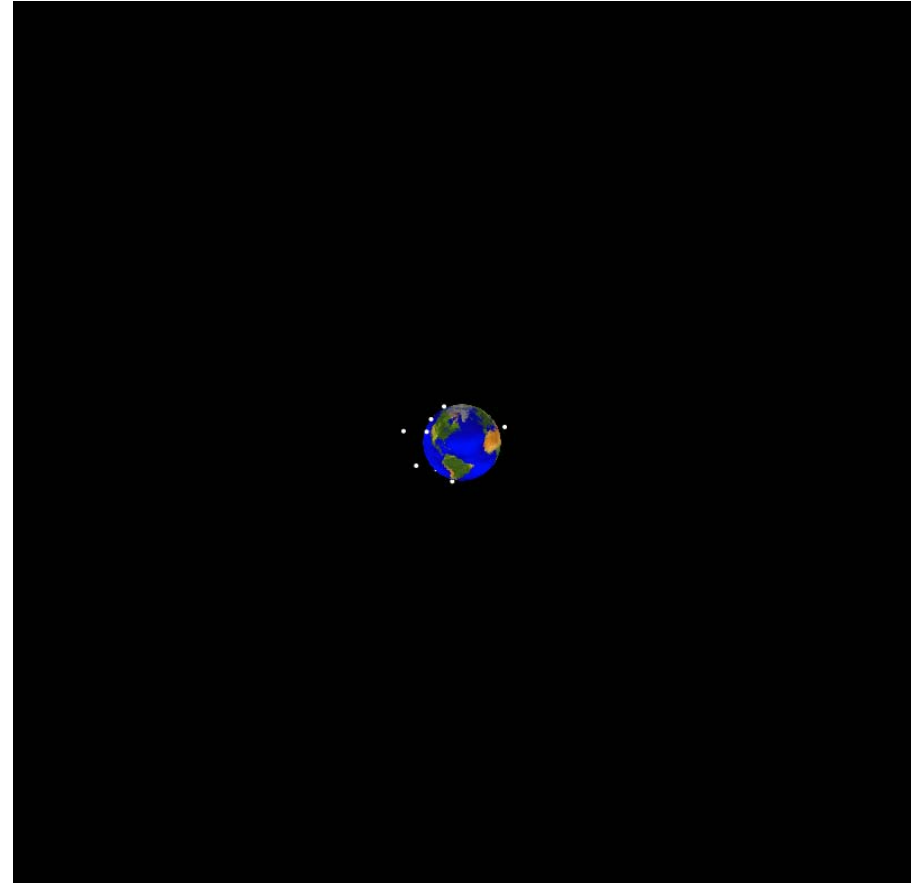
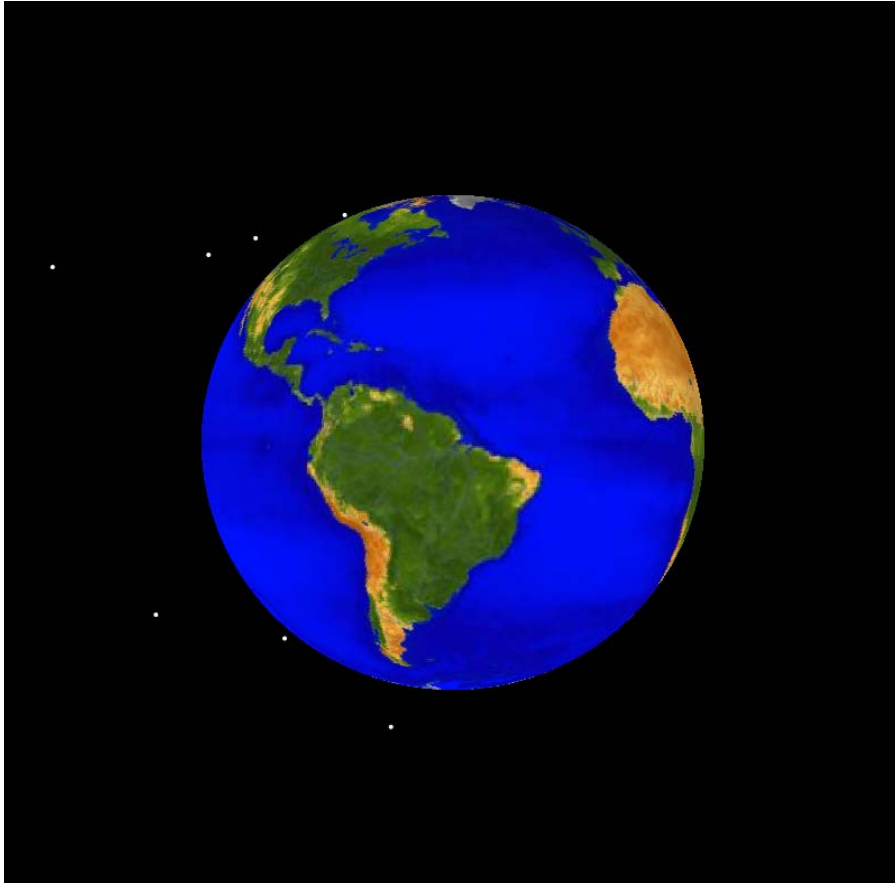
Briefing by Gene Stansbery, Orbital Debris  
Program Office, JSC





# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

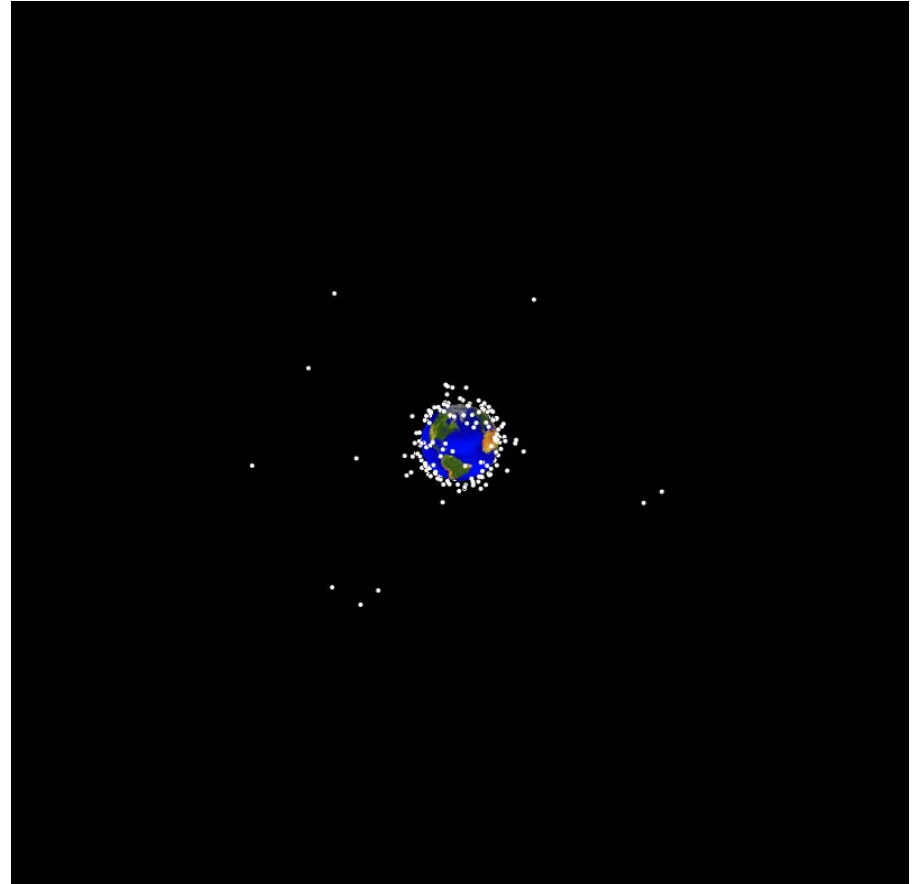
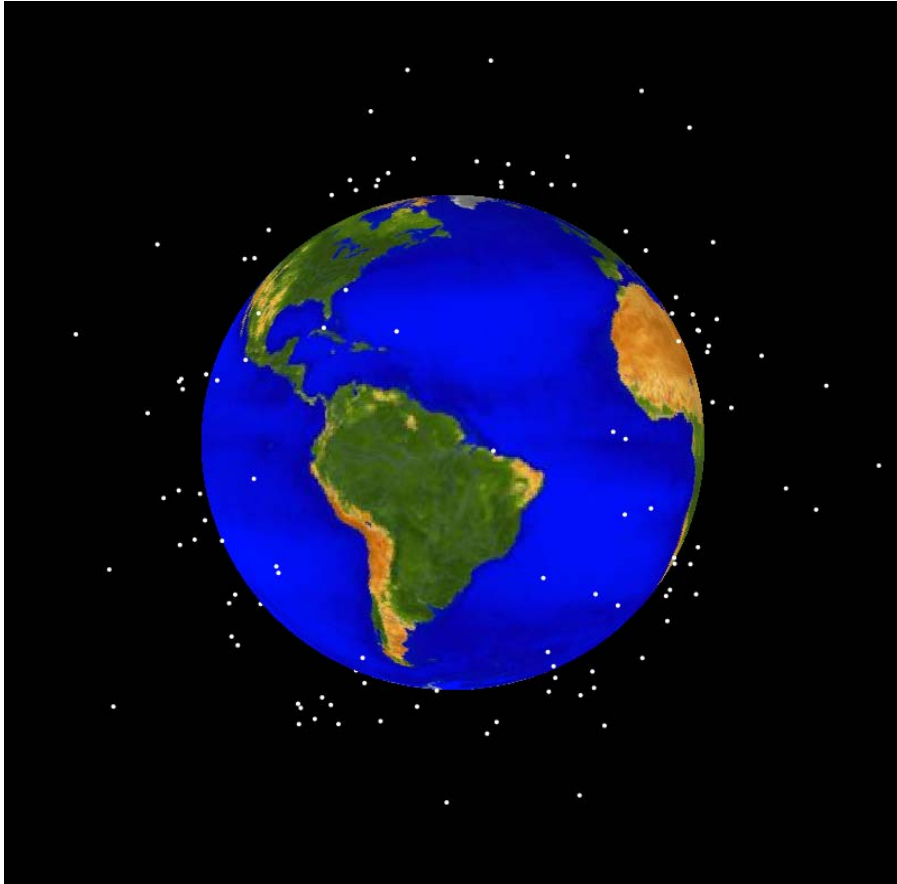
1960



**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**

# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

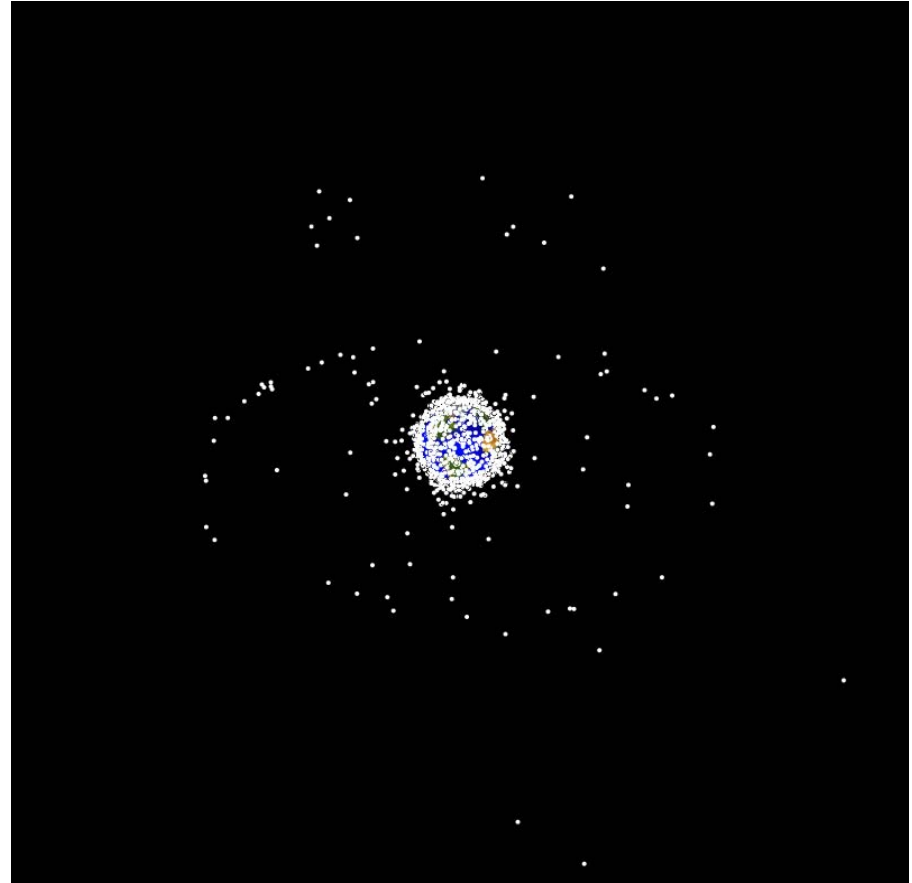
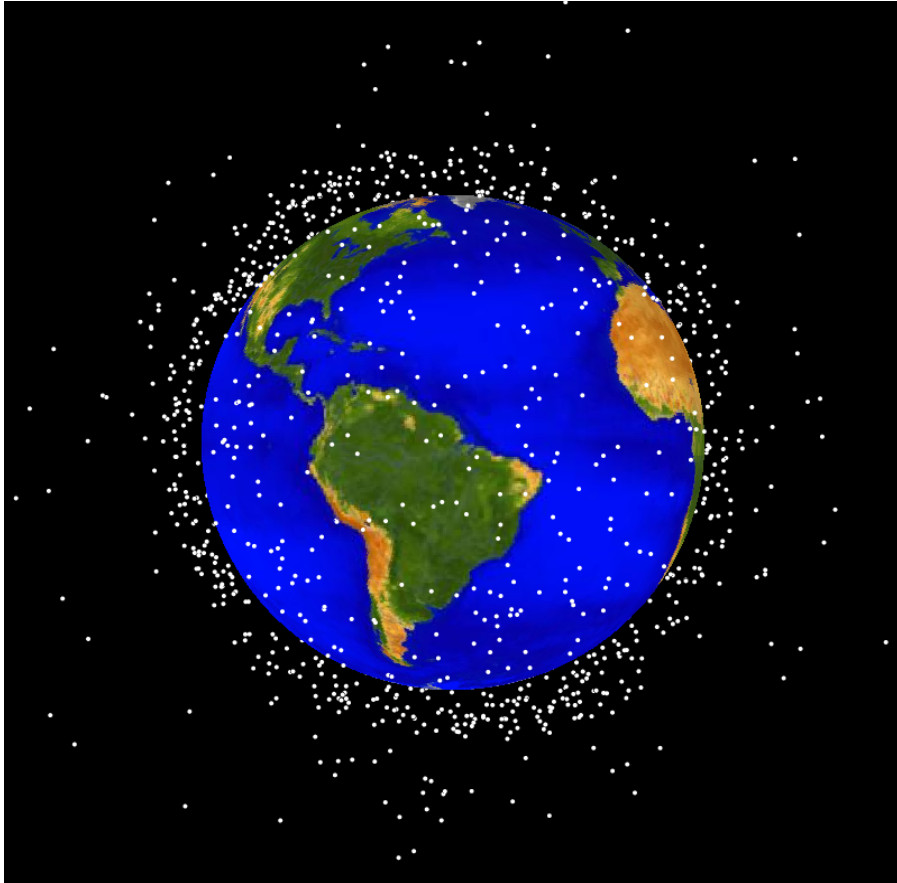
1965



**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**

# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

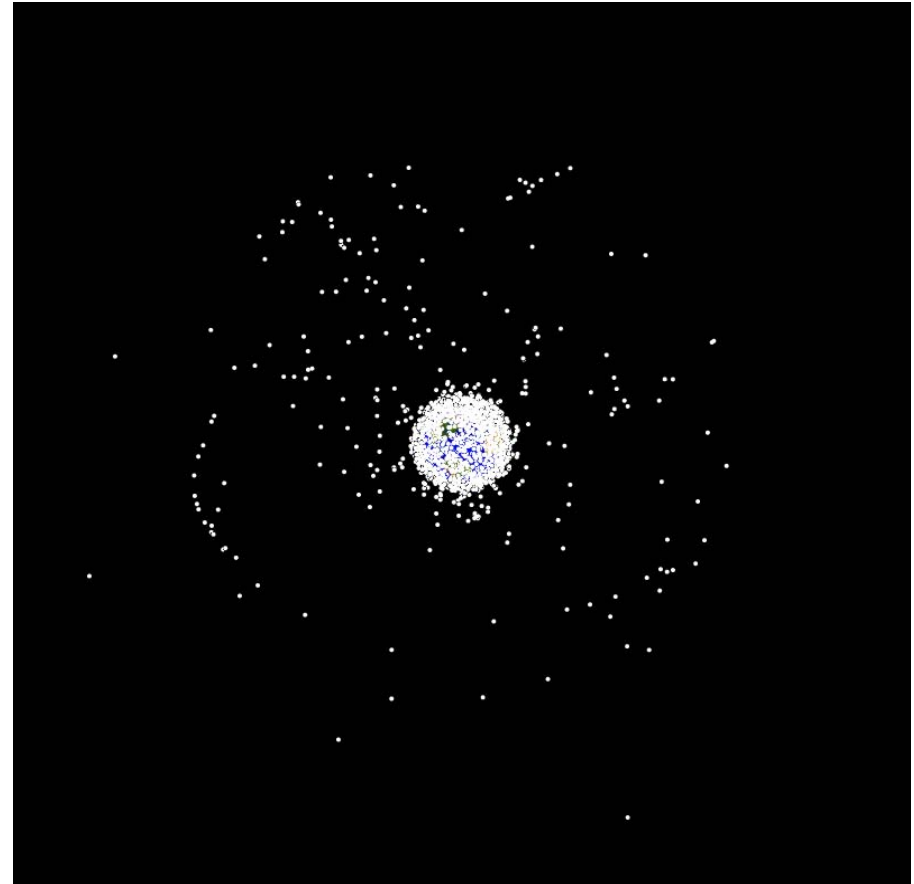
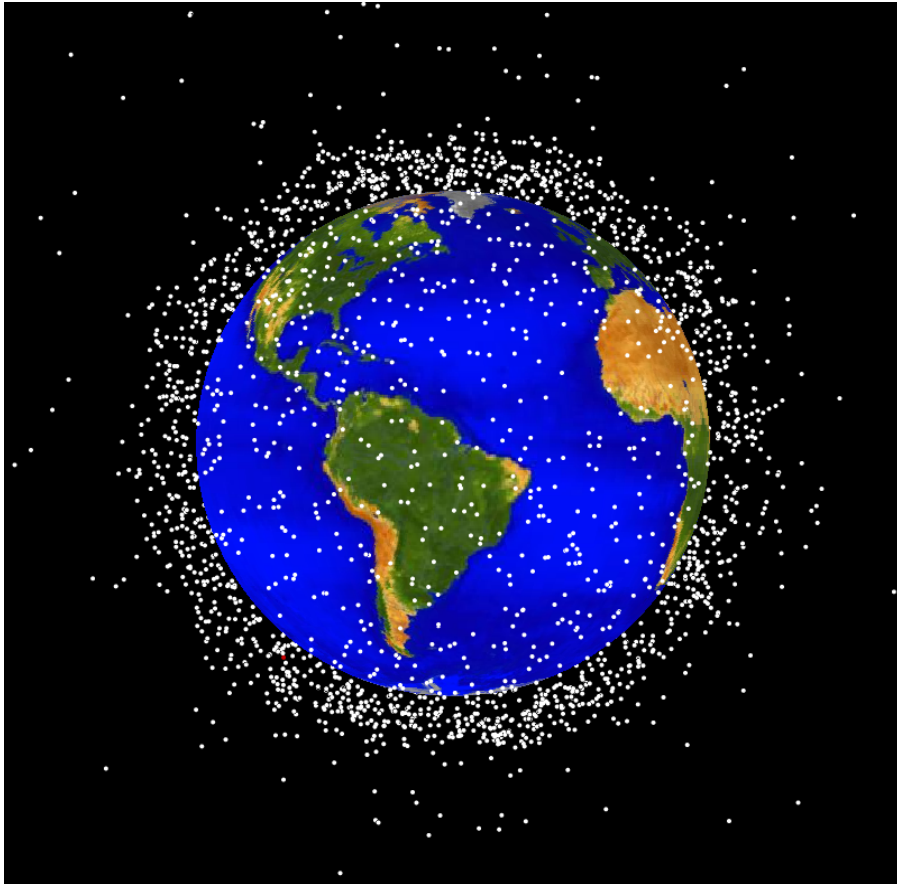
1970



**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**

# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

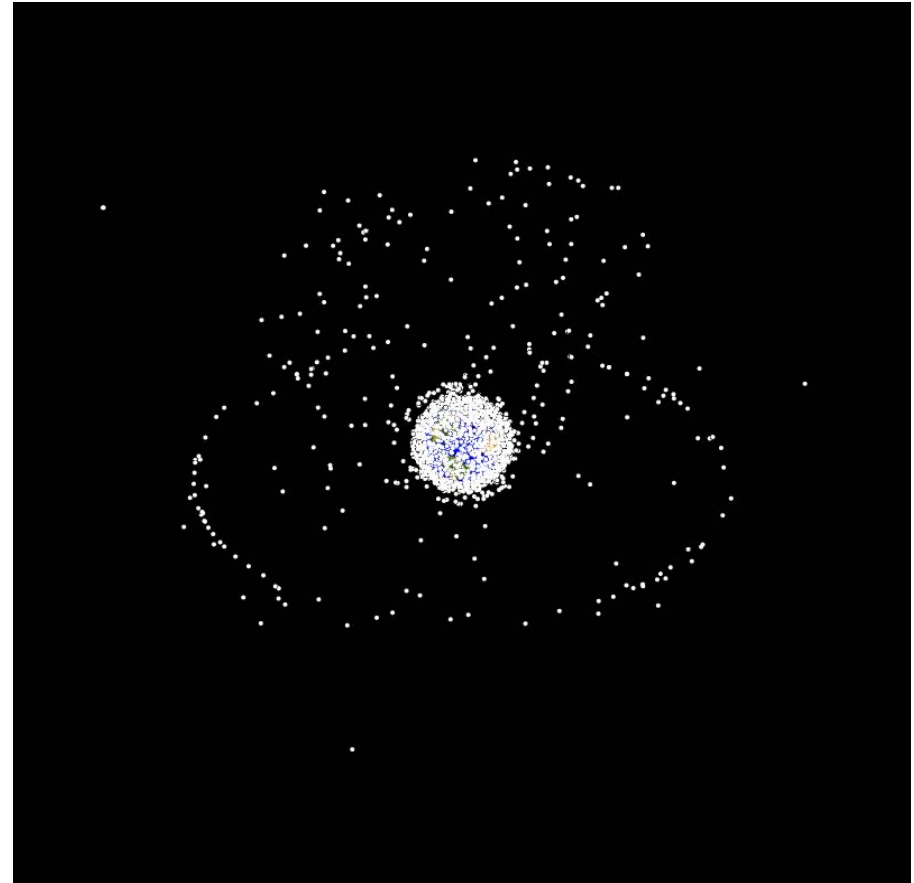
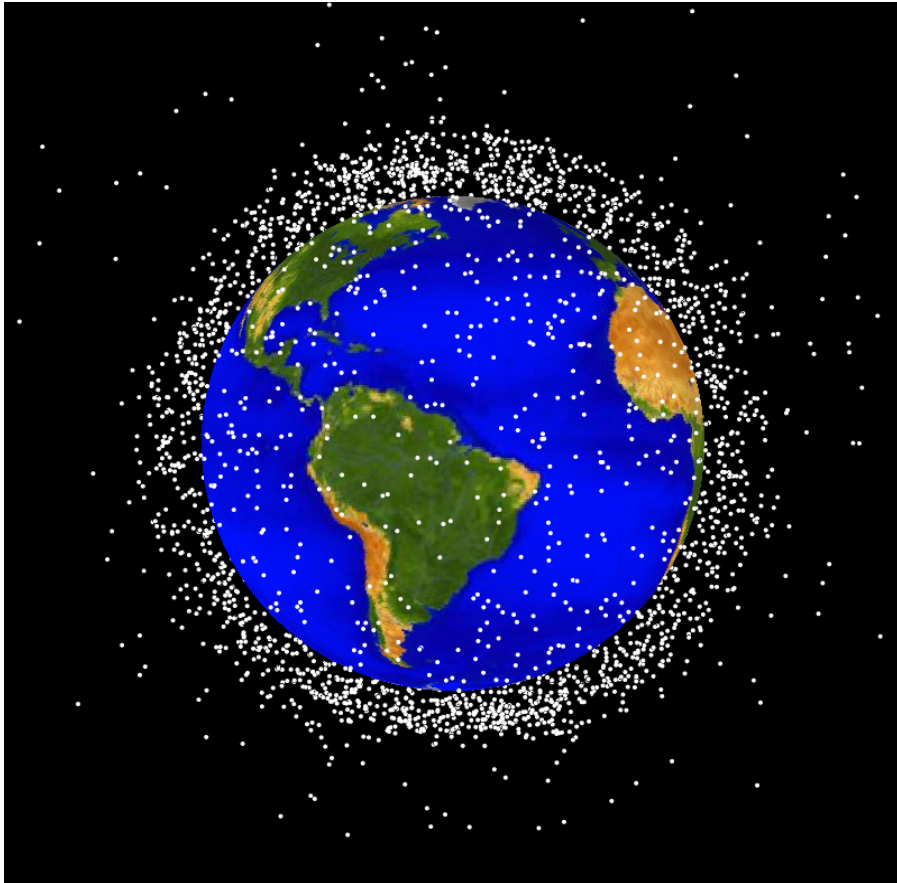
1975



**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**

# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

1980

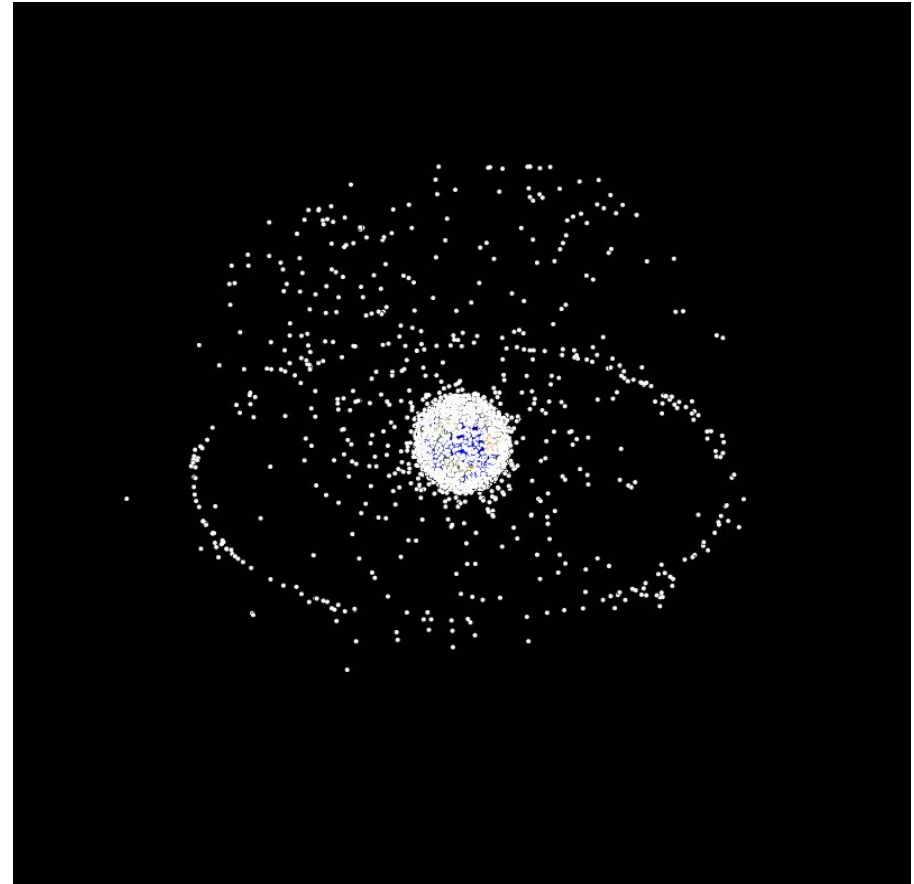
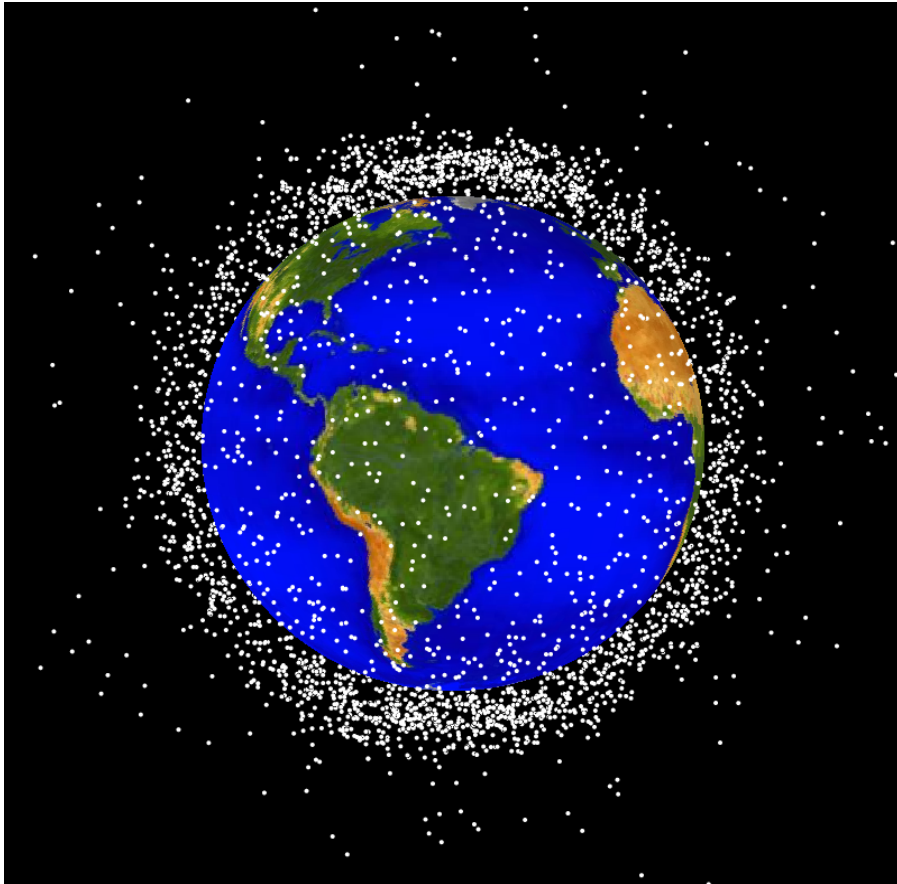


**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**



# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

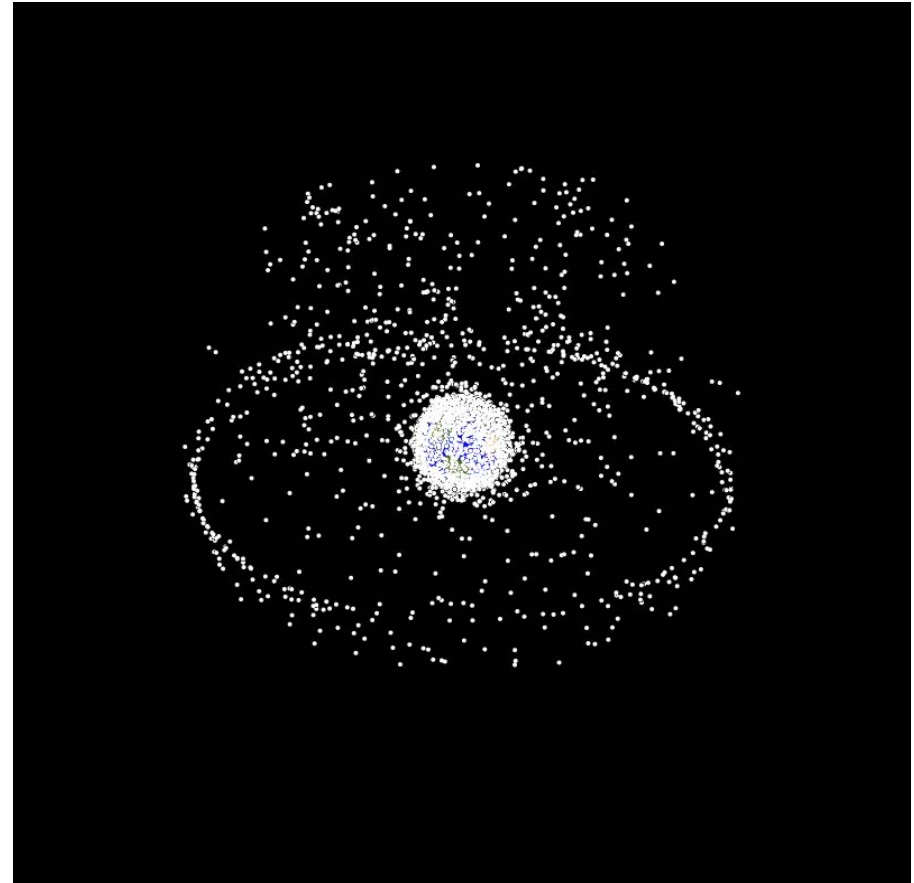
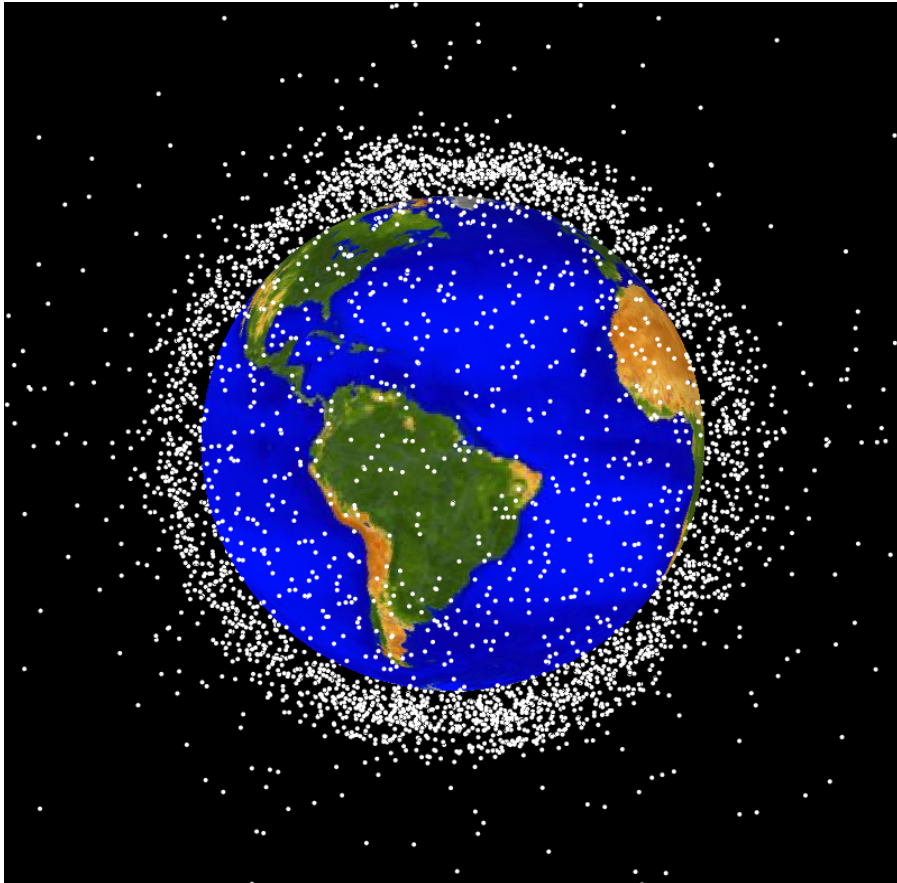
1985



**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**

# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

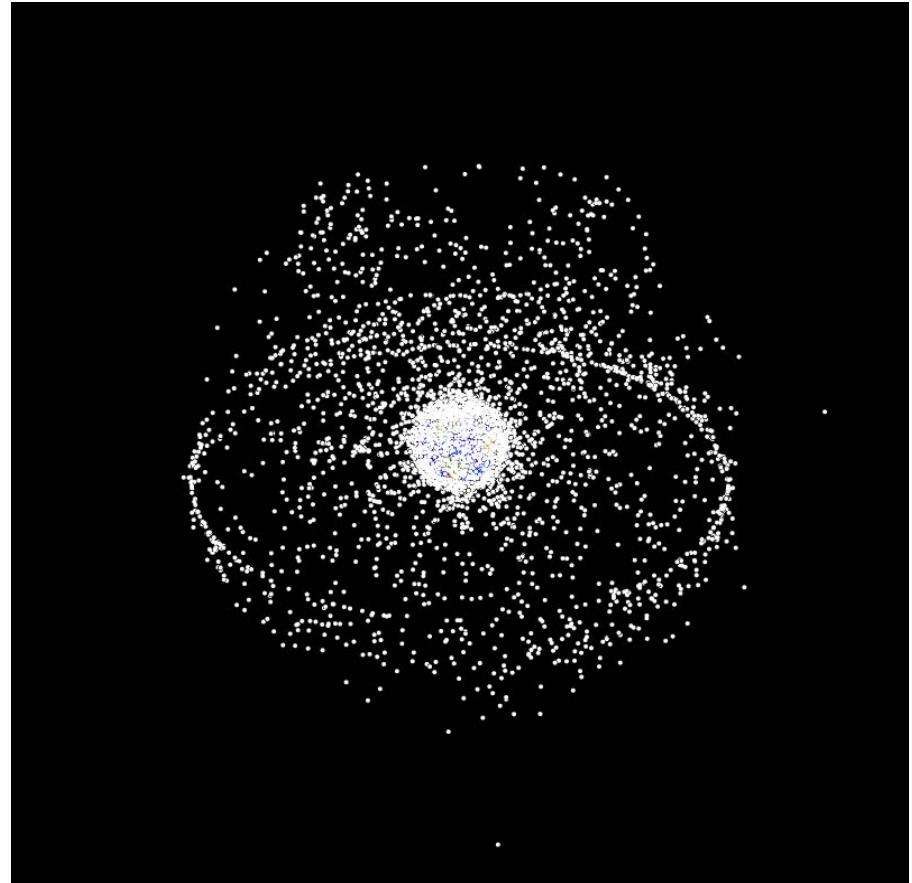
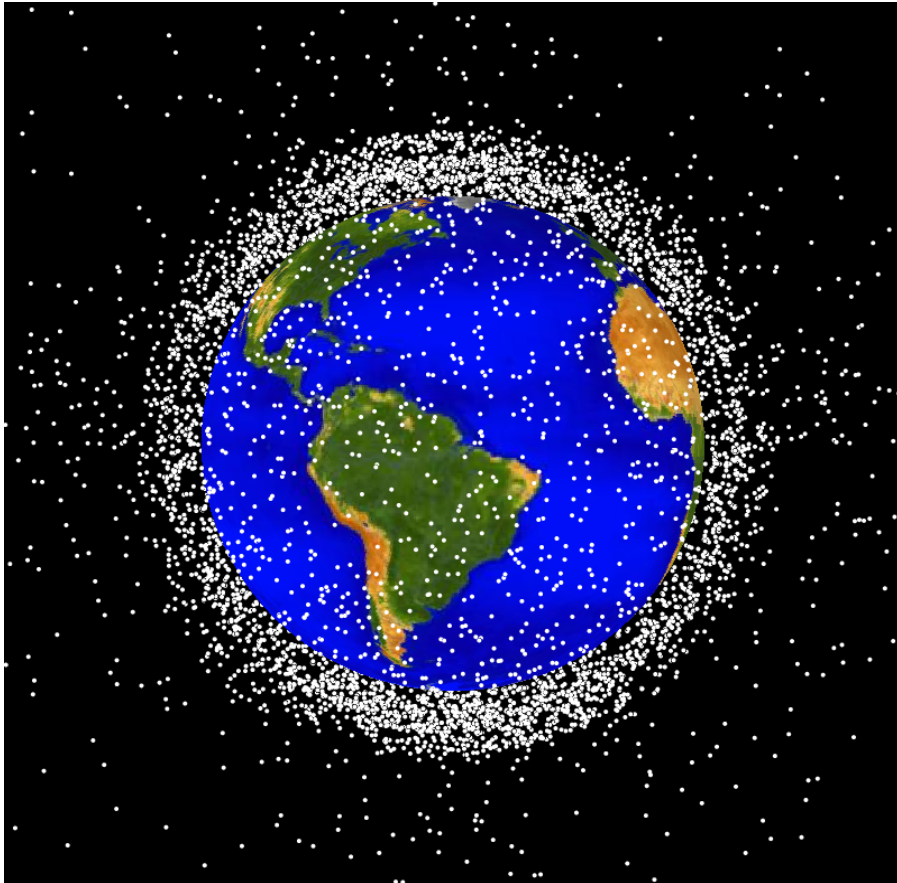
1990



**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**

# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

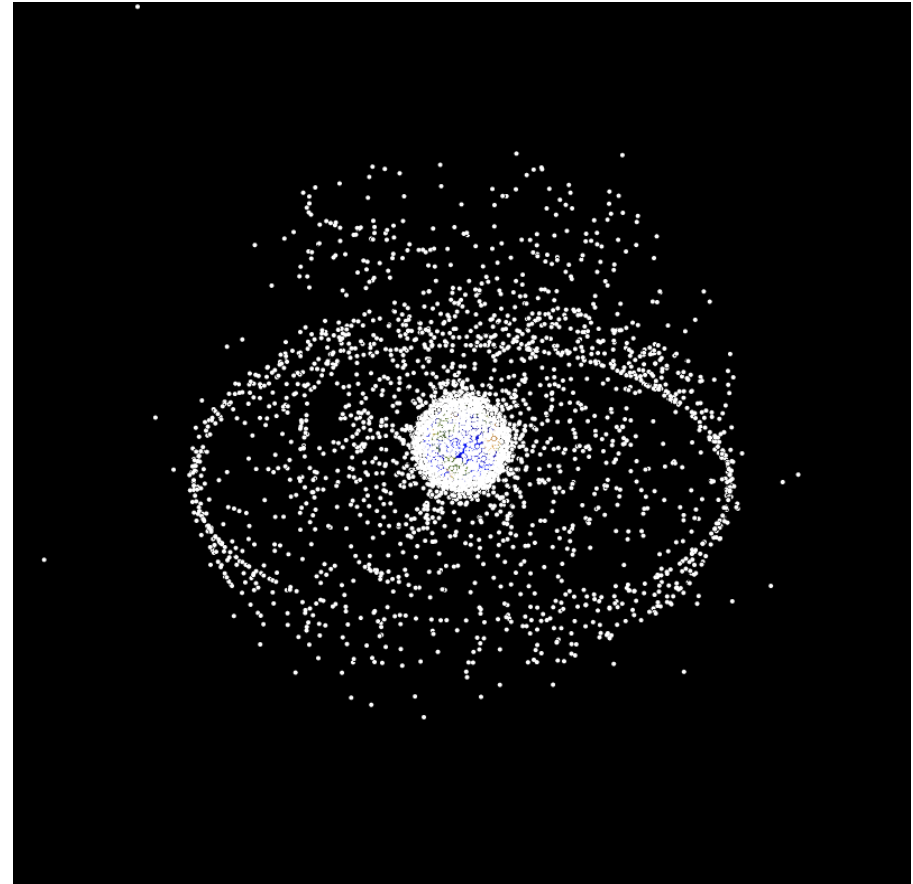
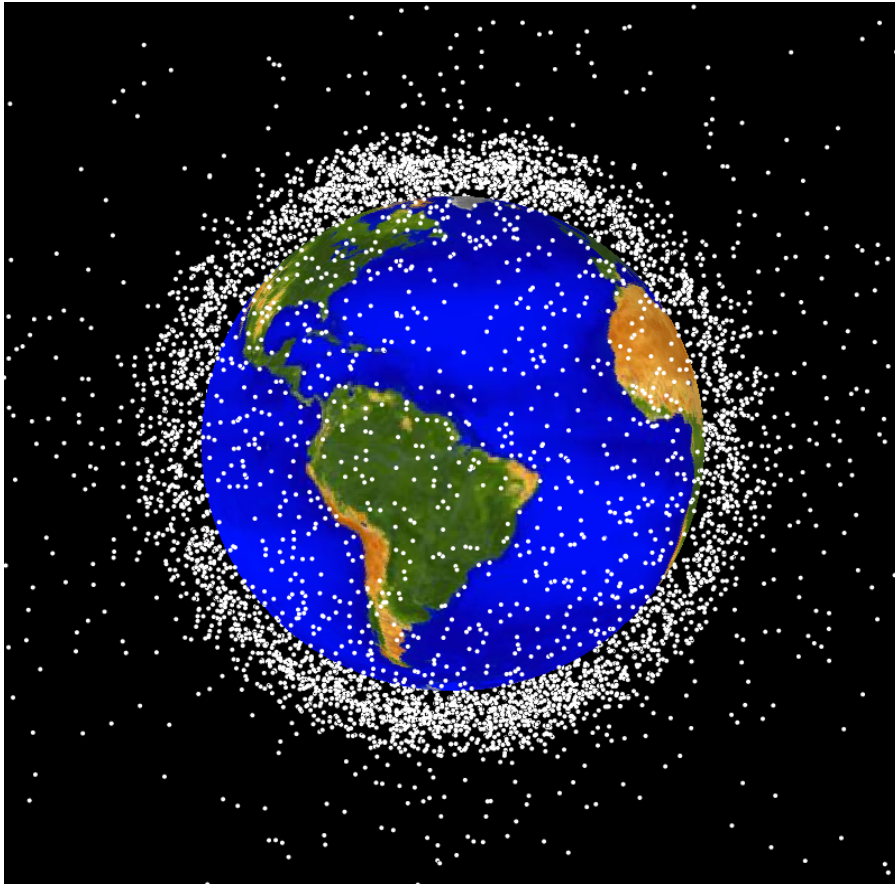
1995



Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter

# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

2000

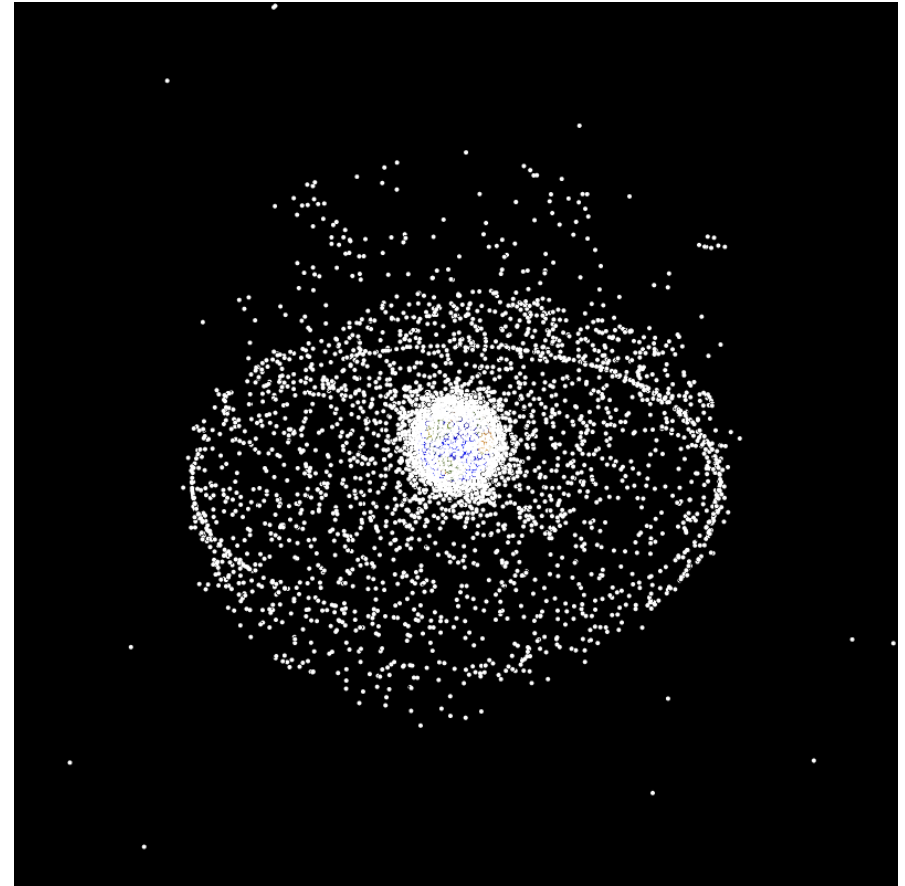
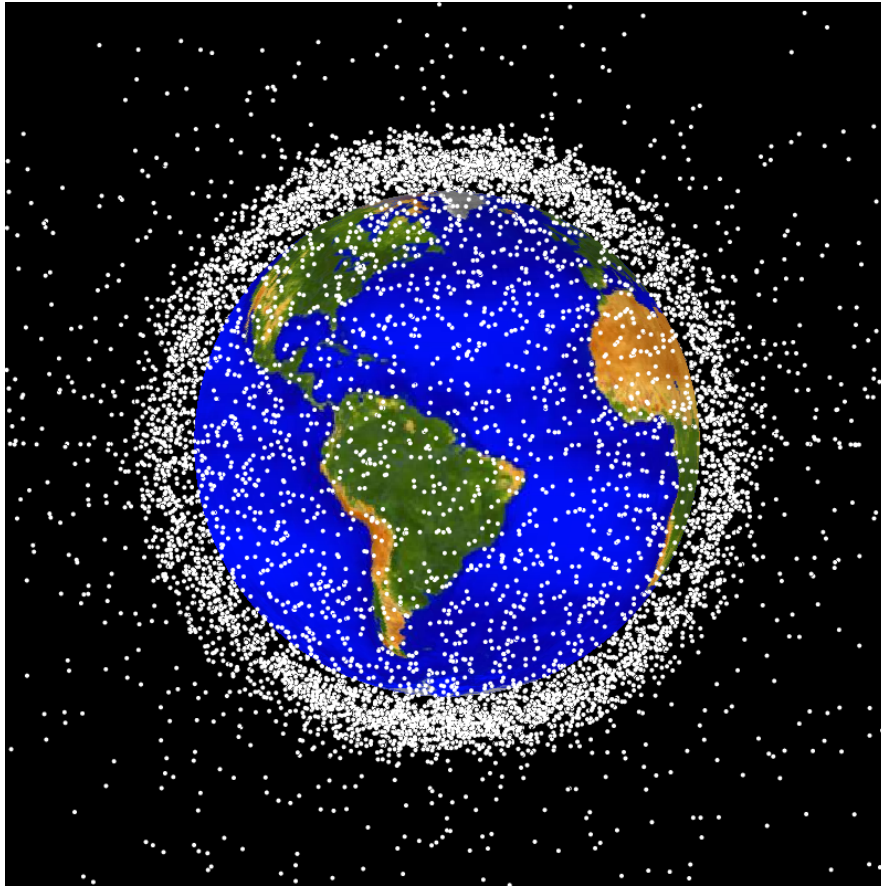


**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**



# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

2005

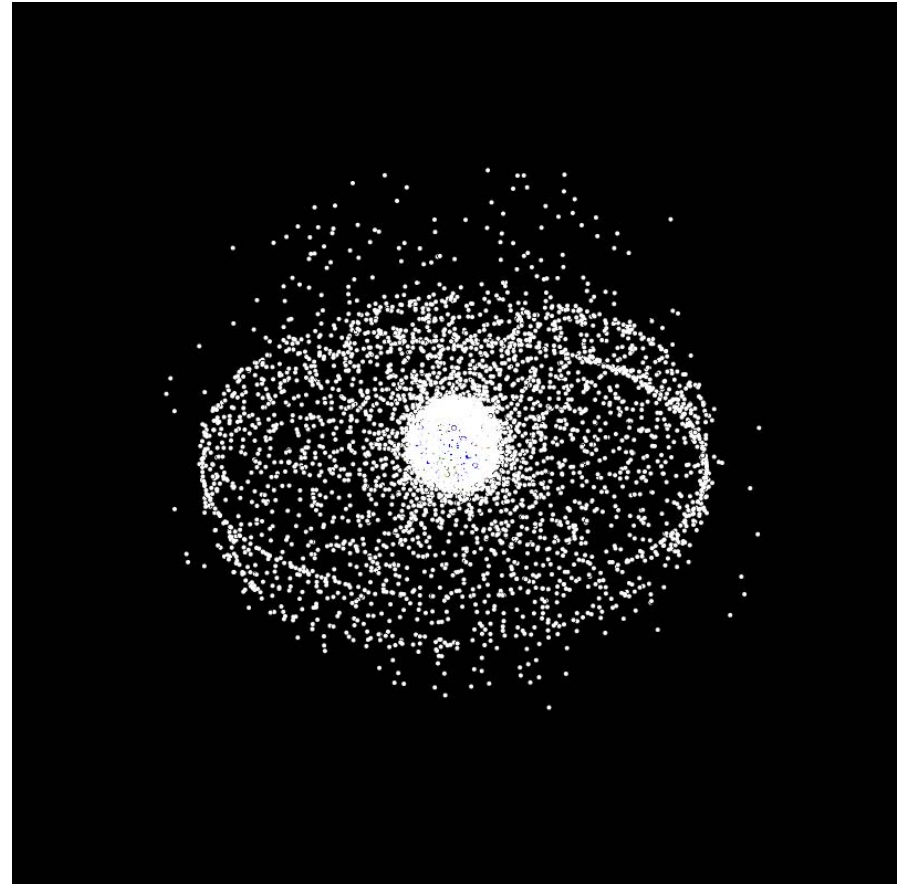
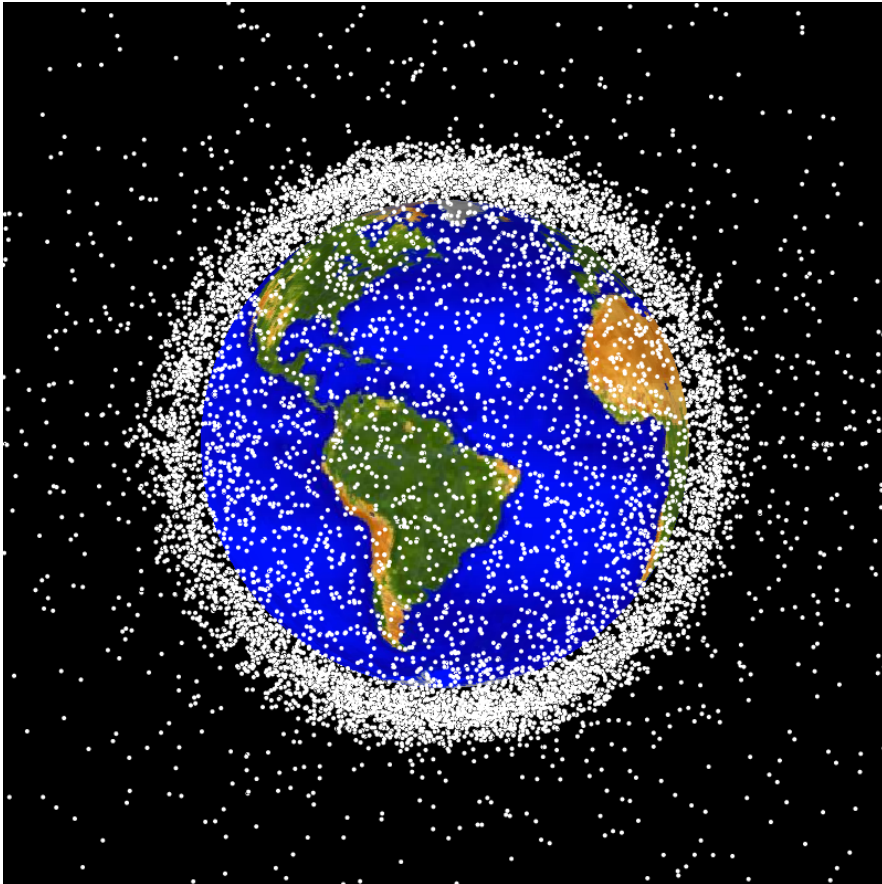


**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**



# Growth of the Earth Satellite Population

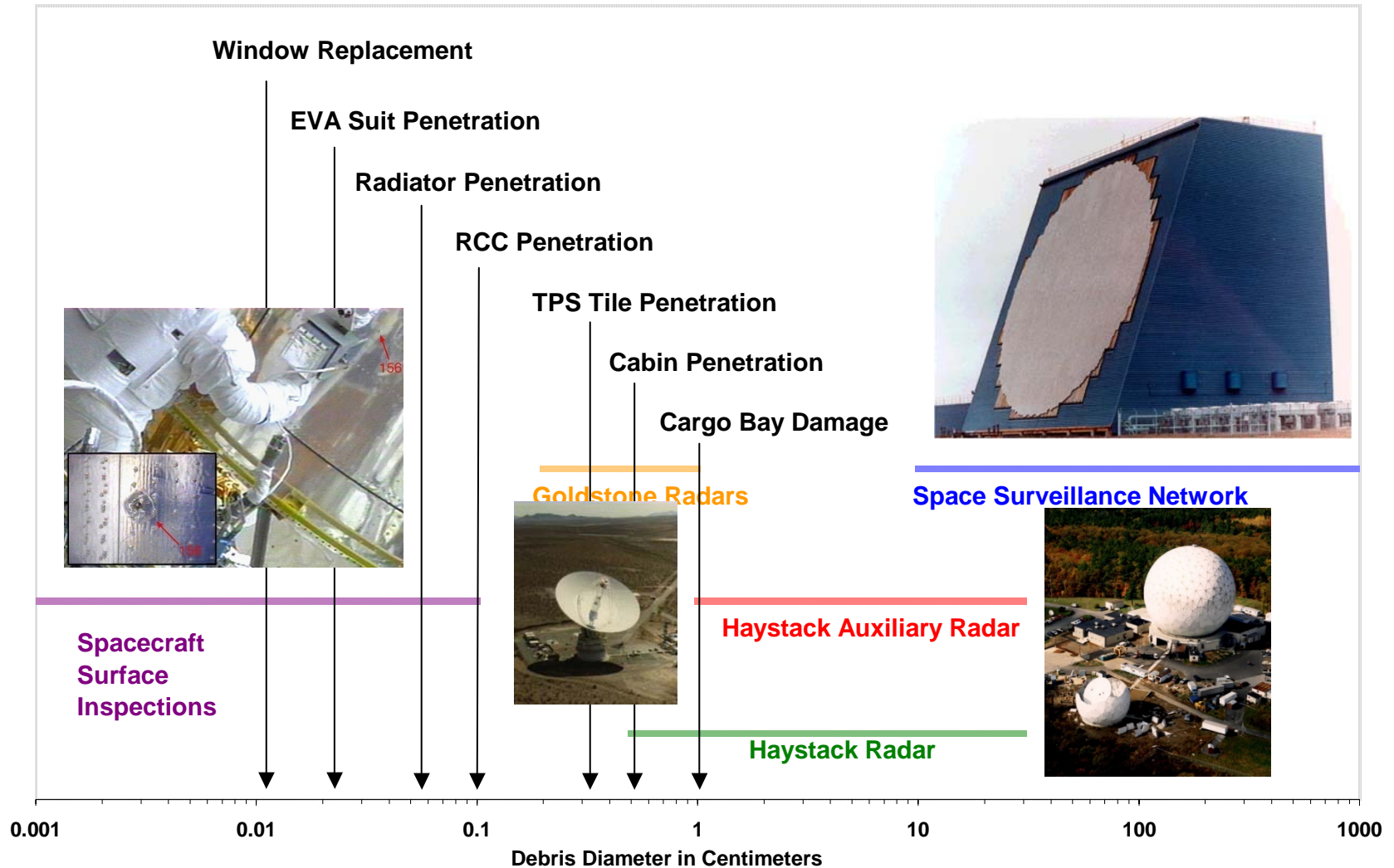
January 2009



**Cataloged objects >10 cm diameter**

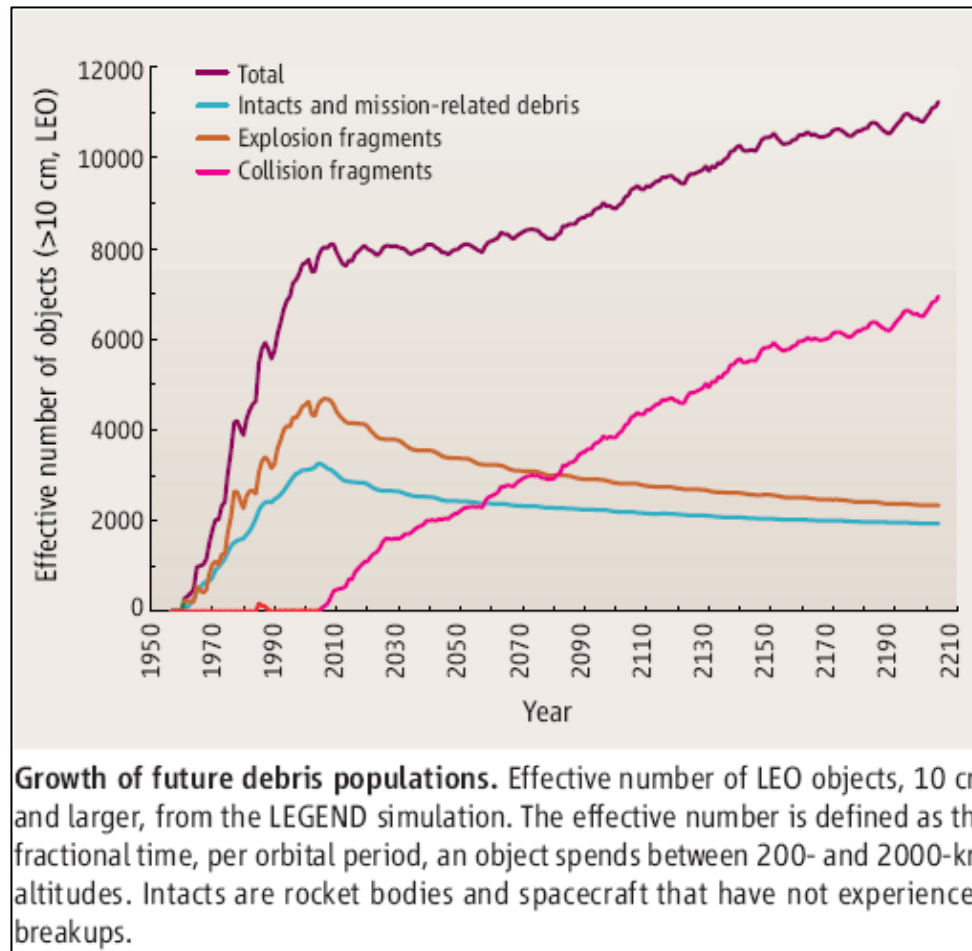
# Principal Orbital Debris Data Sources

## Potential Shuttle Damage



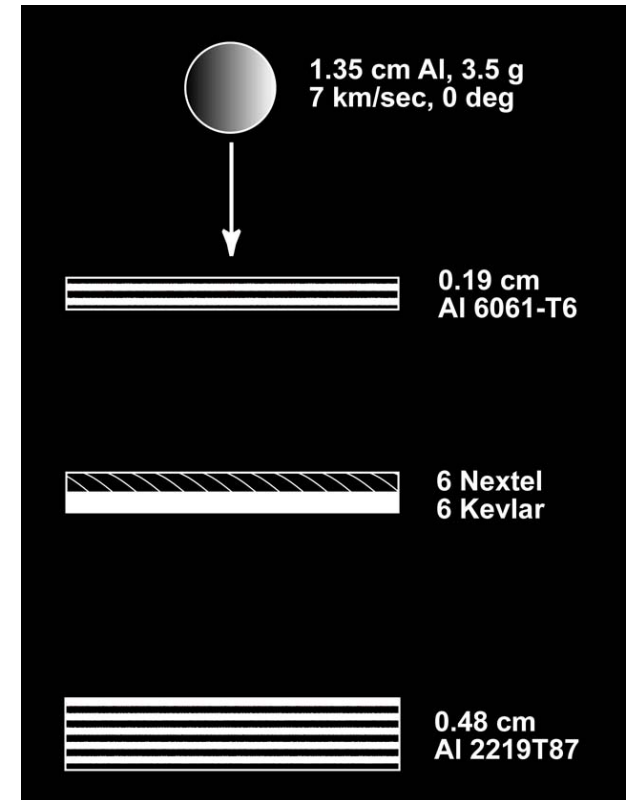
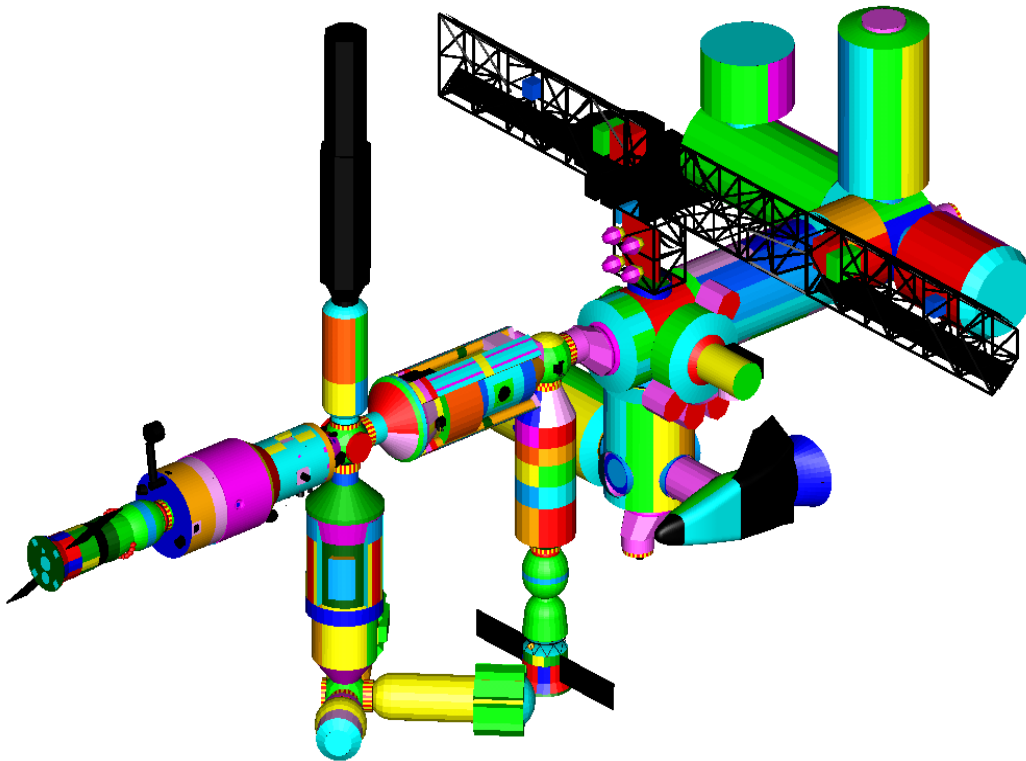
# LEGEND

## (A LEO-to-GEO Environment Debris Model)



# Shielding the International Space Station

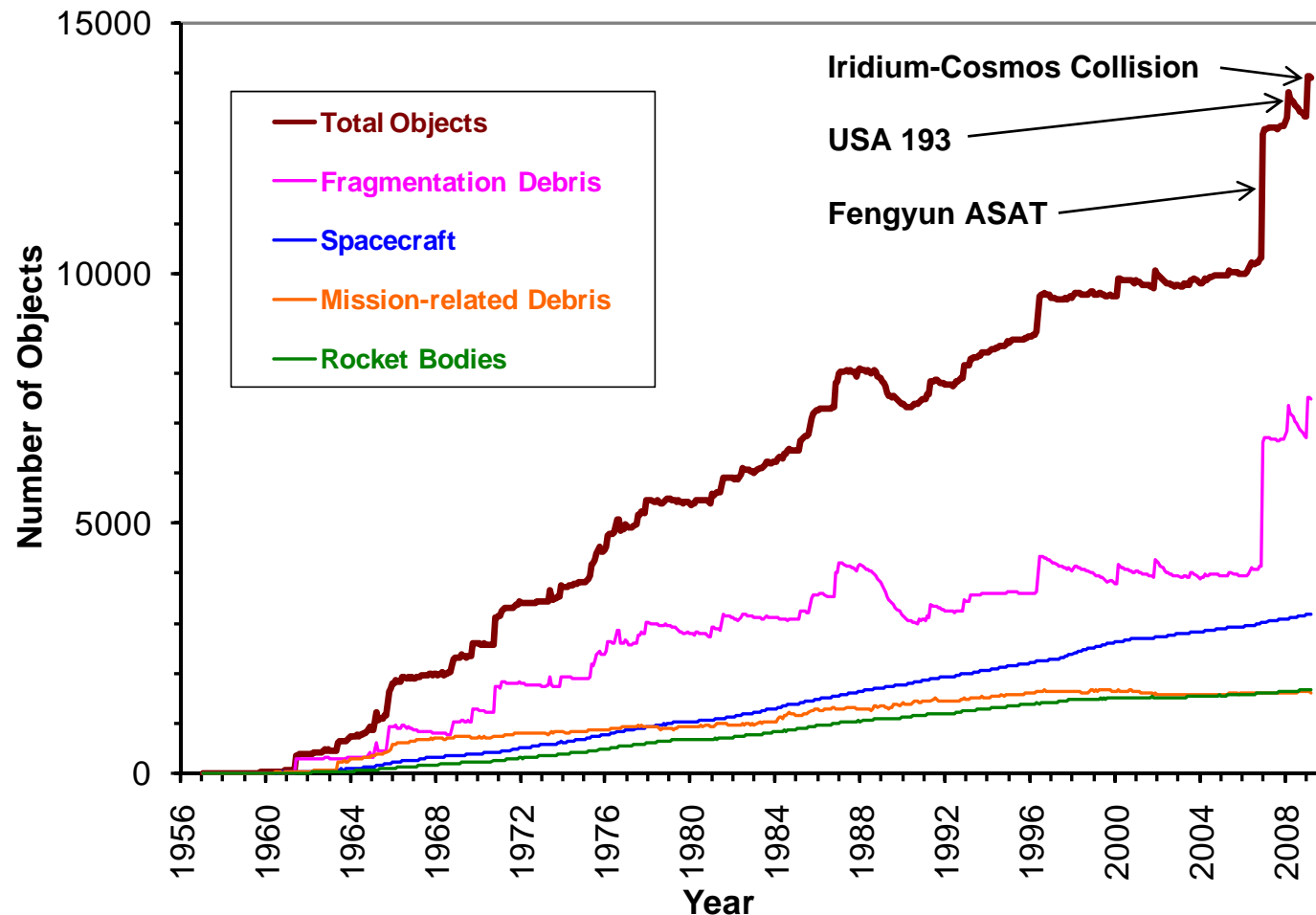
The International Space Station is the most heavily protected space vehicle with more than 200 different types of shields to mitigate the effects of small particle hypervelocity impacts.



One of 200+ design configurations

# Effect of Recent Collisions on the Cataloged Population

- Number of cataloged objects has increased by more than 30% since 1 January 2007
- Catalog currently has more than 14,000 objects in orbit

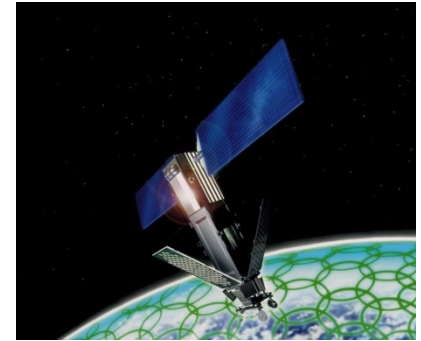




# Collision of Iridium 33 and Cosmos 2251

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- The first accidental collision between two large intact satellites occurred on 10 February at an altitude of ~790 km.
- The SSN continues to catalog debris from the collision. Close to 900 objects have been cataloged to date.
- There is an approximate 2-to-1 ratio in the number of Cosmos debris to Iridium debris.
- Preliminary results indicate other differences between the two debris clouds.



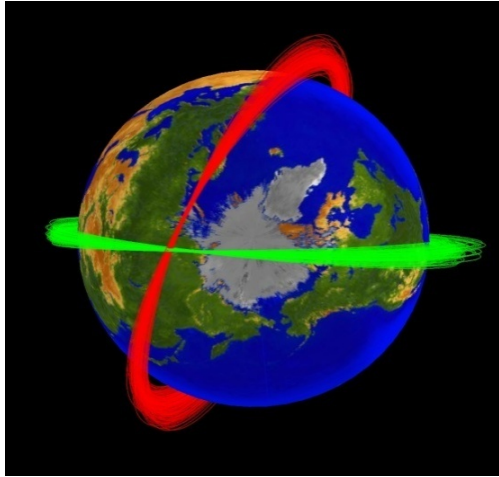
**Iridium 33**



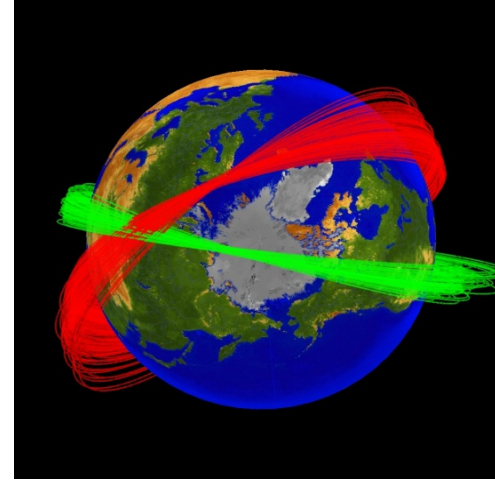
**Cosmos 2251**

# Anticipated Evolution of Collision Debris Clouds

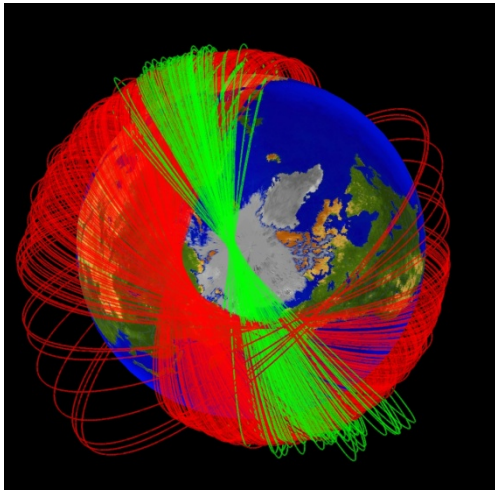
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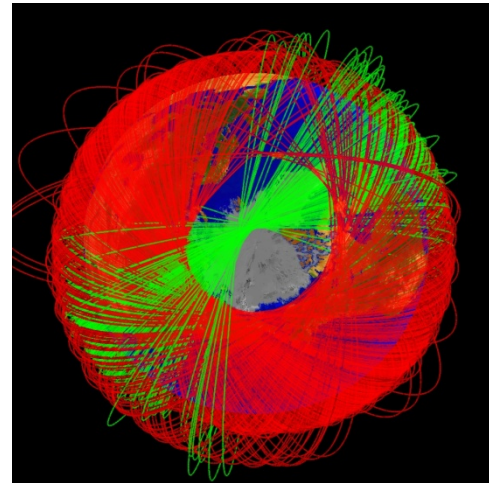
**7 Days**



**30 Days**



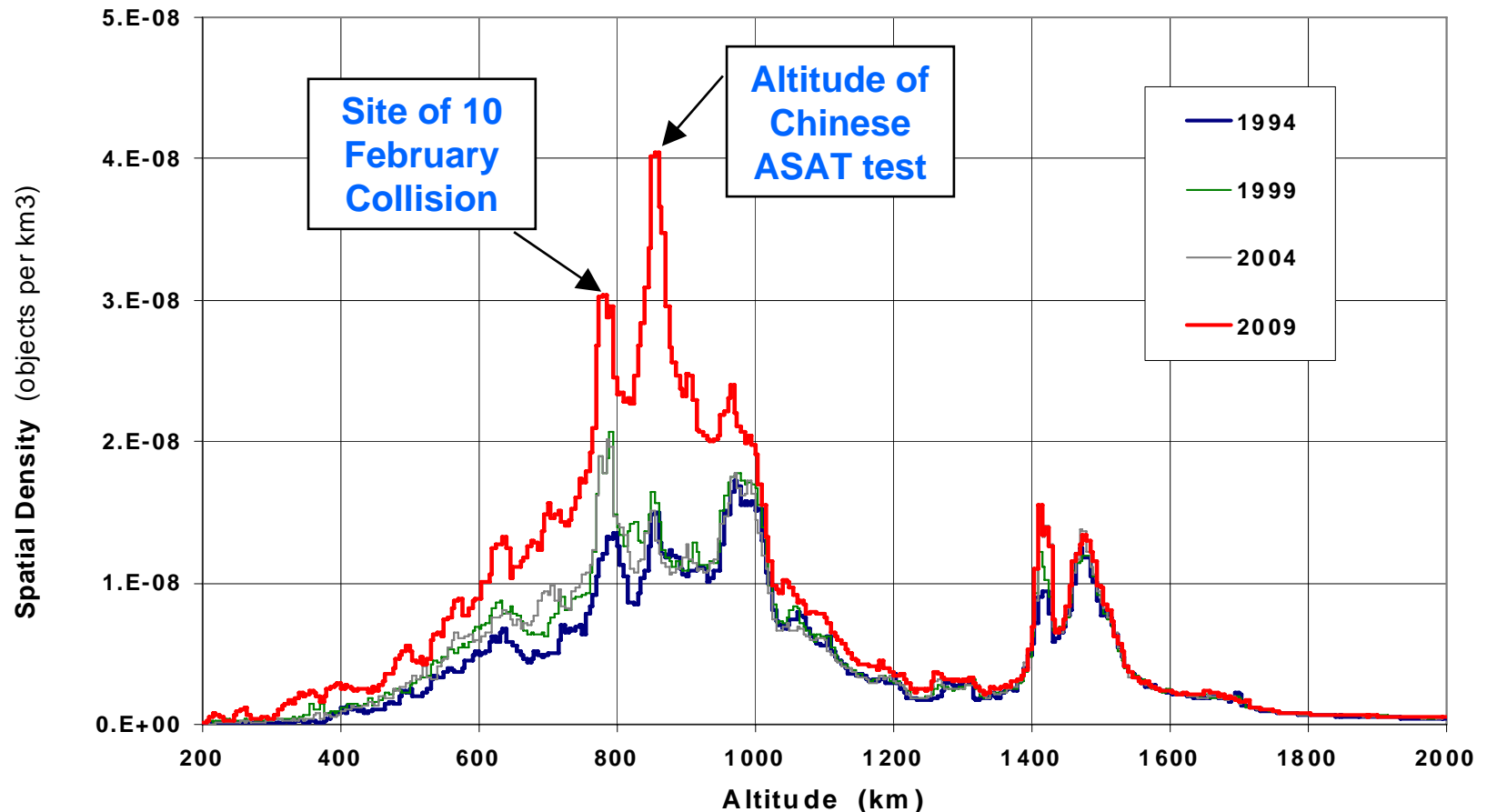
**6 Months**



**1 Year**

# Recent Growth of Satellite Population in Low Earth Orbit

The growth of the cataloged satellite population during the past 15 years has been primarily influenced by China's ASAT test in January 2007.



# Summary

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- The population of debris in orbit continues to grow.
- Since January 2007, the number of cataloged orbital debris objects has increased by more than 30%.
- Example: ISS conjunction in March 2009
- Long-term solutions to the orbital debris environment are still needed.
- Several high profile events have raised the awareness of orbital debris issues providing an opportunity to examine a more aggressive program.
- Recommendation

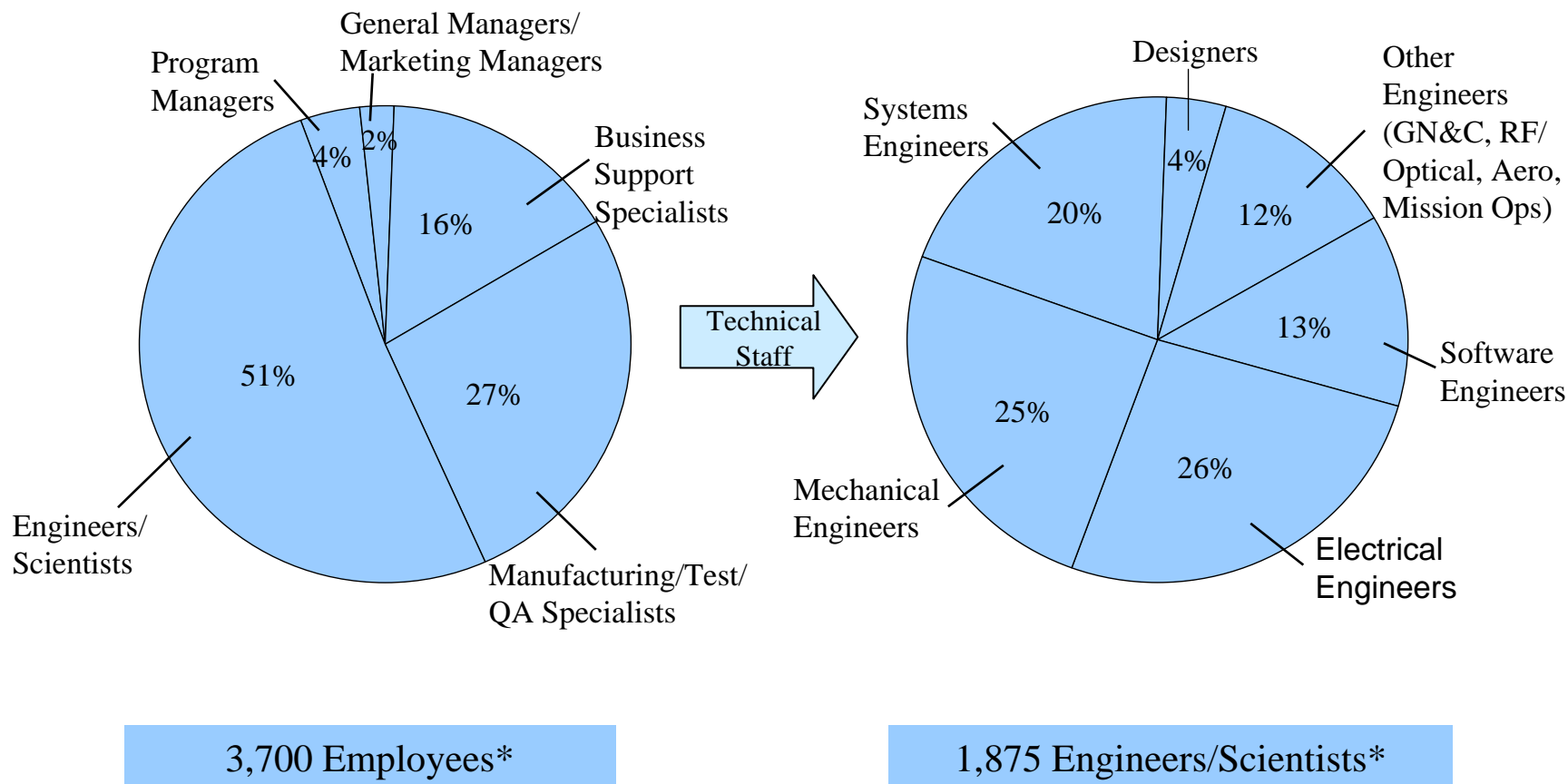
# Orbital Sciences Corp. Overview

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- Space Operations Committee visited on April 14, 2009
- Leading Developer and Manufacturer of Smaller Satellites and Launch Vehicles
  - Focus on Growing Market Niches Not Well Served By Larger Companies
  - Provide Highly-Reliable Systems on Fast Schedules and at Affordable Prices
- About 890 Satellites and Launch Vehicles Built or On Contract for Customers
  - 690 Systems Developed, Built and Delivered From 1982 to 2008
  - 200 Systems Under Contract for Deliveries From 2009 to 2015
- 3,700 Employees and 1.25 Million Square Feet of State-of-the-Art Facilities
- Over \$5.8 Billion Total Contract Backlog With Premier Customers
- Revenues of \$1.17 Billion in 2008, Aiming for ~10% Annual Long-Term Growth
- Conservative Balance Sheet, Strong Cash Flow and Liquidity



# High-Caliber Engineering-Centric Workforce



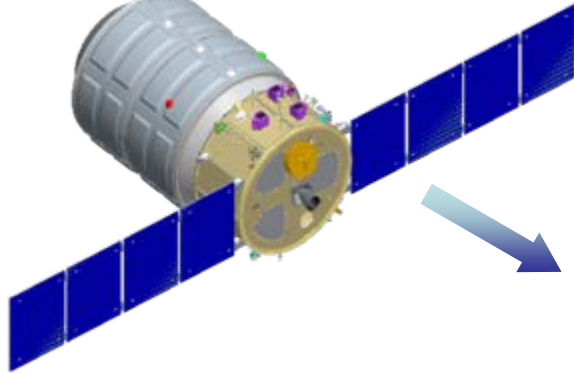
\*As of April 1, 2009

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# Commercial Orbital Transportation Service (COTS) And Commercial Resupply Service (CRS)

# Orbital COTS Systems Architecture

The Orbital COTS System is comprised of 4 Major Elements



Cygnus Visiting Vehicle



Orbital COTS System



Taurus II



Cargo Operations

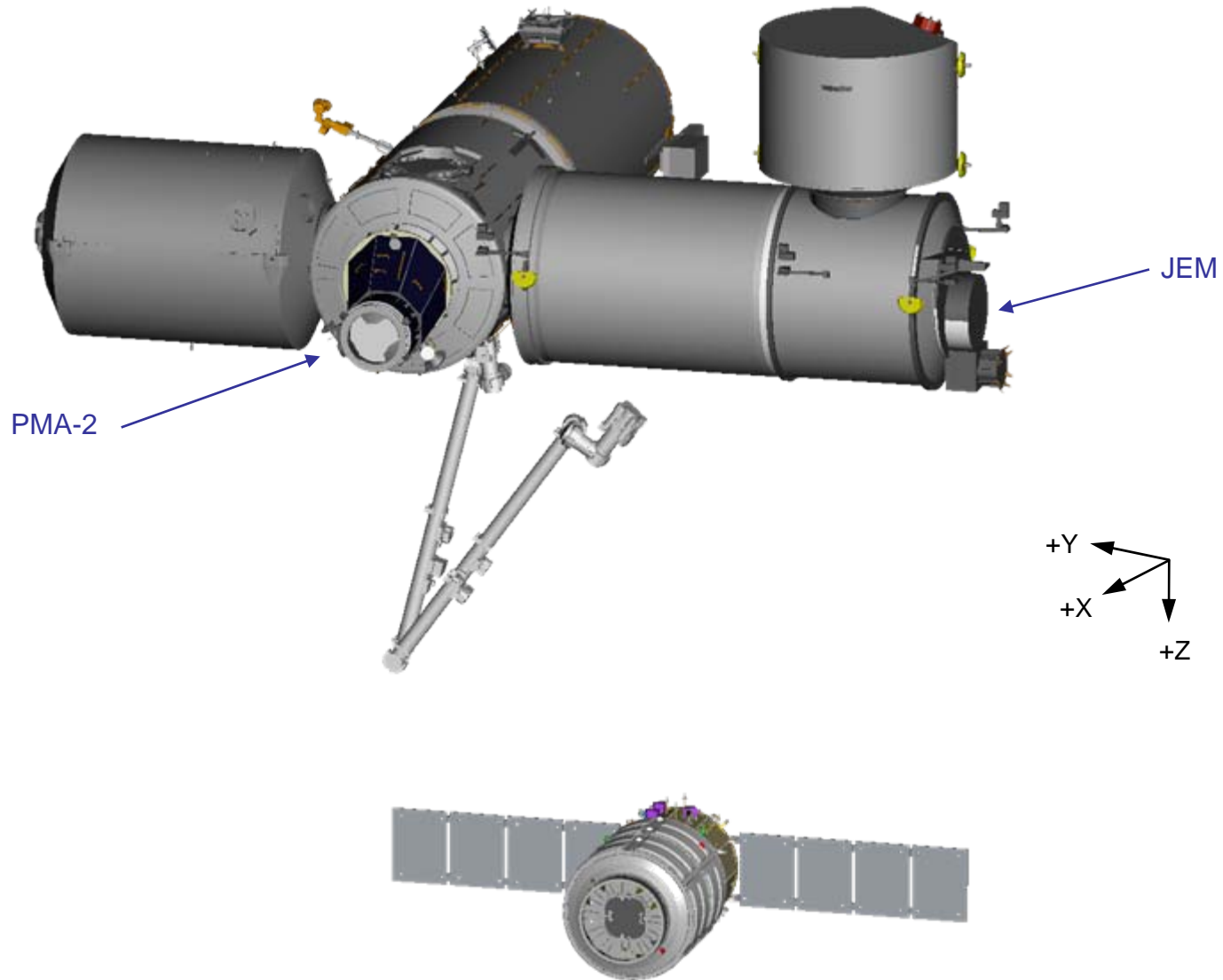


Mission Operations



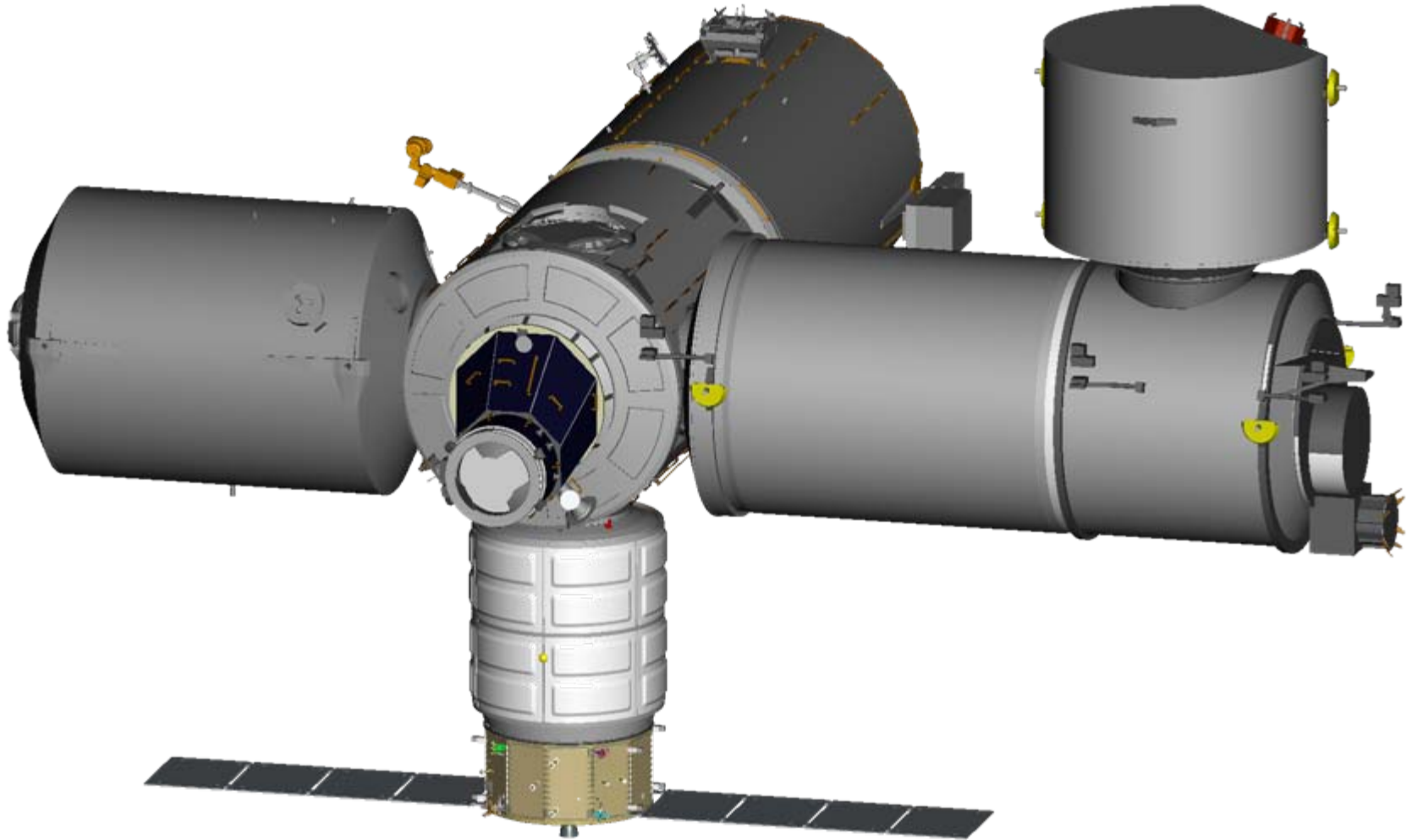
Integrated Launch Site Operations

# Cygnus Visiting Vehicle (Free Flight)



# Cygnus Berthed at ISS Node 2

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# Demonstration and Operational Phase

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- Orbital On Contract For Eight Operational Missions Between 2011 And 2015
- CRS Missions Carry Pressurized Cargo To ISS And Disposal Cargo From ISS
- CRS Missions Three Through Eight Provide Enhanced Capability
  - Cygnus Will Utilize A Larger PCM To Provide 2700 Kg Cargo Capacity
  - Taurus II Will Utilize Enhanced Second Stage
  - Cygnus Service Module Design Is Common



# Taurus II Launch Sites

## LAUNCH SITES

Wallops Flight Facility is Baseline Launch Site for Initial Taurus II Launches, Supporting COTS/CRS  
However Taurus II Vehicle is Compatible with Multiple U.S. Launch Ranges Providing Customers with a Variety of Capabilities

### *Kodiak Launch Complex (KLC)*

- KLC in Alaska Provides Taurus II with a Prime Location for Launching High Inclination, Sun-Synchronous Missions

### *Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB)*

- VAFB in California is a Another Prime Location for High Inclination, Sun-Synchronous Launches



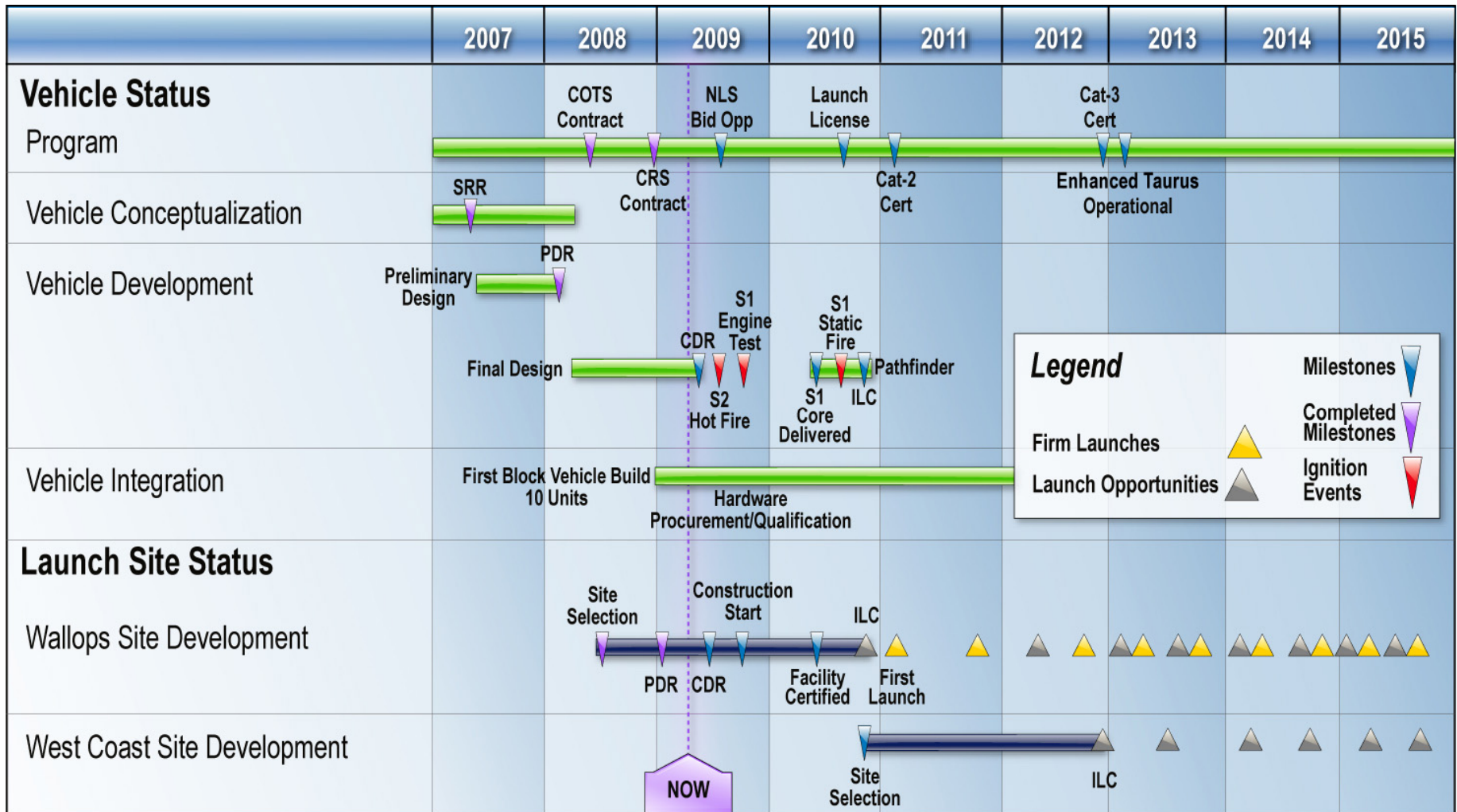
### *Wallops Flight Facility (WFF)*

- NASA's WFF in Virginia is Home to the Taurus II COTS/CRS Launch Program and Supports Mid-Inclination and High Energy Missions

### *Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS)*

- CCAFS in Florida Along with NASA's Kennedy Space Center Provides Taurus II with a Veteran Launch Location for Low-Inclination and Specialized Missions

# Taurus II Schedule and Manifest



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# Orion Launch Abort System



# Summary of Accomplishments 2008/09

## Major Accomplishments

- ✓ Completed Major Development Testing
- ✓ Completed Structures Fabrication
- ✓ Completed Second Full Scale Jettison Motor Static Fire Test On Schedule
- ✓ Successful Abort Motor Static Fire Test
- ✓ Successful LAS Modal Test
- ✓ Successfully Supported PDR Activities
- ✓ Meeting Both PA-1 and Operational LAS Mass Requirements
- ✓ GFY08 Expenditures Came In Under The Required Limit
- ✓ Successful ACM HT-6 Test
- ✓ Successful ACM HT-8A Test



Second Jettison Motor Full Scale Test



Abort Motor Full Scale Test



Control Motor Structural Development Unit



LAS Modal Test



Attitude Control Motor HT-8A Test



# Orbital Sciences Corp. Facility Visit

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## Summary

- The Space Ops Committee has now visited the facilities of both COTS companies, SpaceX and Orbital Sciences Corp., and is pleased to report positive progress in both cases.

# U.S. Research on ISS National Lab

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ISS National Laboratory beginning in 2010 (NASA Authorization Acts of 2005 and 2008)

- Opportunities for other U.S. government agencies to use ISS to meet their agency objectives
- Opportunities for commercial interests to use ISS in the interests of economic development in space
- SAA in place with NIH

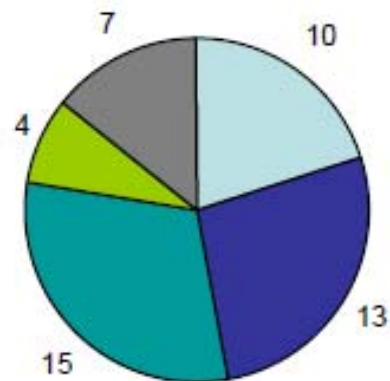


# Expedition 19/20 Research Plans

(April 2009 – October 2009, data as of Feb 17, 2009)



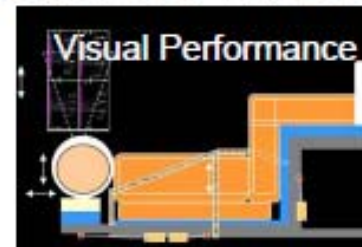
- Expedition 19/20
  - 98 U.S.-integrated investigations
    - 39 new investigations
    - 49 International Partner investigations
      - 5 CSA
      - 28 ESA
      - 16 JAXA
  - > 400 scientists



Expedition 19/20

## Disciplines for U.S. Science

- Human Research for Exploration
- Technology Development
- Physical Sciences
- Biological Sciences
- Earth Observation & Education



# NASA Research Outfitting

## 2 Human Research Facility Racks



## Microgravity Science Glovebox (MSG)



## 6 ExPRESS Racks



## Minus Eighty-Degree Laboratory Freezer for ISS (MELFI)



2001-2008

## Combustion Integrated Rack (CIR)



## Materials Science Research Rack



## Fluids Integrated Rack (FIR)



MELFI-2



2009

## Window Observational Research Facility



MELFI-3



ExPRESS-7 and 8 (?)



2010

## Muscle Atrophy Research Exercise System (MARES)



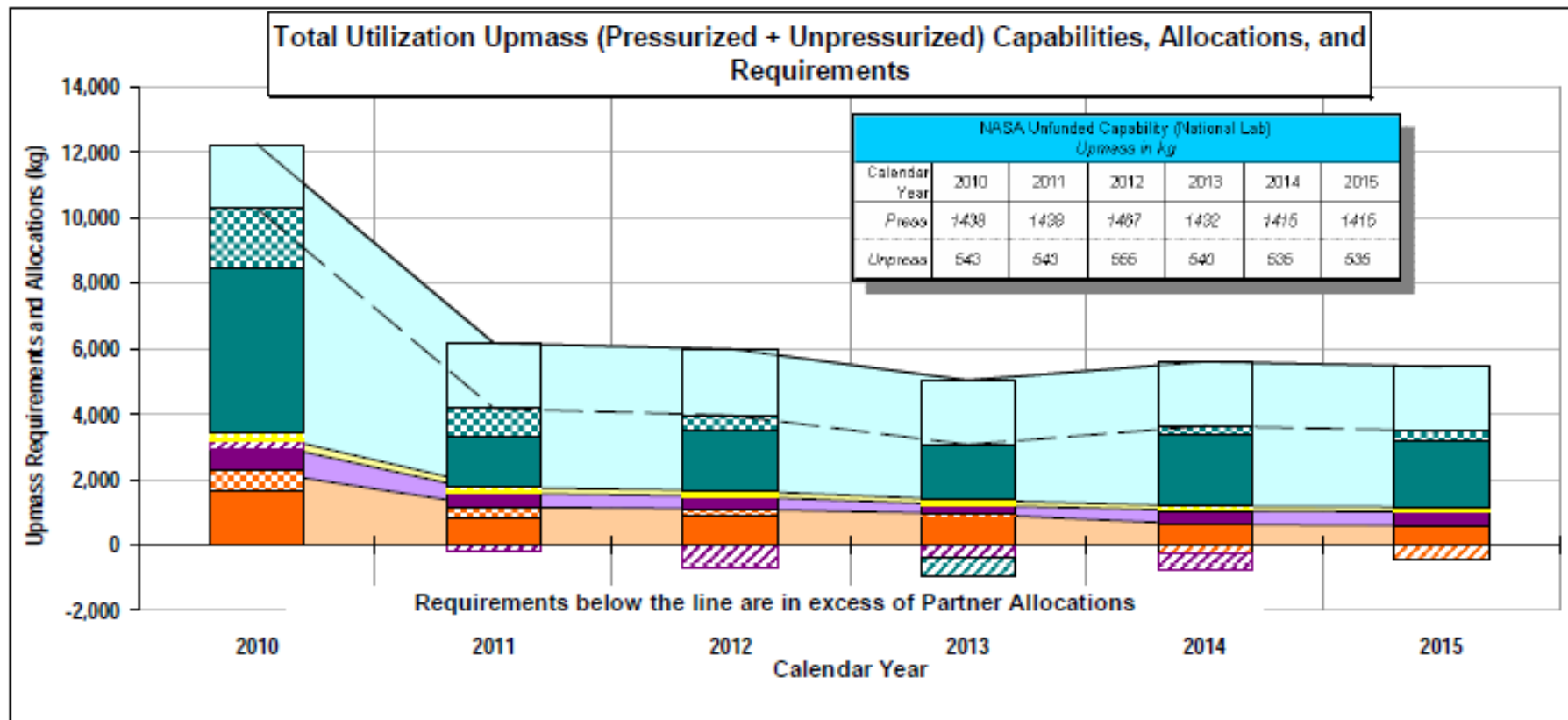
Added for National Lab

# Partner Utilization Requirements Compared to Utilization Capabilities

## Upmass

2008 Signed Consolidated Operations and Utilization Plan.  
Assembly Sequence Rev J

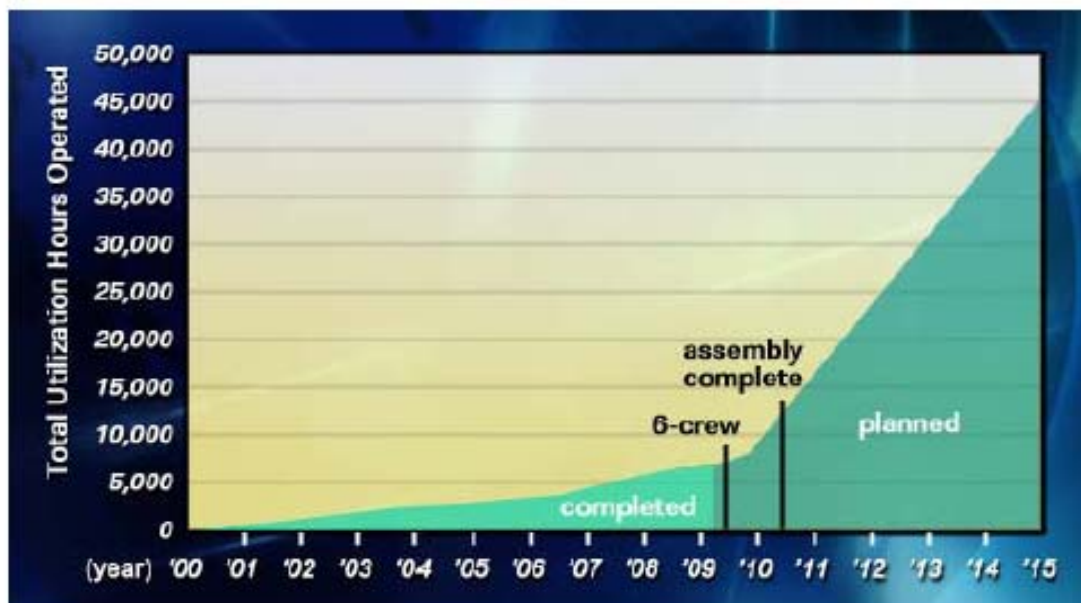
	Capabilities	Requirements not by Allocation	Unused Allocation	Requirements not met by Allocation
NASA/US National Lab			N/A	N/A
NASA Utilization				
CSA				
ESA				
GOJ				
USOS Planned Capability*				
NASA Utilization Capability				





# Importance of 6-crew for Utilization

- Availability of Human Subjects
  - Each subject can participate in approximately 6 experiments
    - Limitations on Baseline Data Collection (BDC), especially in first week post-return
    - Interactions of experimental and control treatments for multiple experiments
  - Transition from 3- to 6-crew doubles available human subjects for human research experiments
- Increases Total Crewtime for Research



# Recommendation

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## Recommendation:

We recommend that NASA conduct an in-house study of the current and projected orbital debris situation in order to evaluate the costs and benefits of developing a form of debris removal technology. The study should compare the costs of operating in the ever-expanding debris population with those of developing a selective debris removal method, and how those compare with long-term savings from actively reducing the threat of future collisions. We also recommend that NASA examine enhancements to the nation's debris detection, tracking, and prediction capabilities that will enhance spacecraft protection.

## Rationale:

The growing debris population, expanded significantly by recent ASAT tests and random collisions, poses a continuing and increasing threat to operational spacecraft. Despite international protocols on preventing the creation of future debris, the debris population will continue to expand for decades, well past the middle of the century. Gaps exist in U.S. detection capabilities, especially at smaller debris sizes that can still cause catastrophic damage to spacecraft. The projected debris population will, over decades, result in additional damage to or loss of spacecraft, and poses a growing threat to spacecraft. NASA may be able to offer methods to actively reduce the debris population. The benefits of reducing the debris population will accrue to commercial, military, and NASA spacecraft.

# Activities for Next Quarter

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## Fact finding:

- Human/Machine Interface of Orion for both ISS and Lunar missions
- Orion Water vs Land Landing (with Exploration Committee)
- Constellation Deep Space Operations beyond the Moon (e.g. NEOs) (with Exploration Committee)
- Ames work on handling qualities for Moon/Mars landers

## Activities:

- Attend Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel briefing at JSC (April 2009)



# Summary of Activities

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- ISS Status
- Space Shuttle Manifest Update
- Orbital Debris Update
- Orbital Sciences Corporation Facility Visit
- ISS Research Program Plan Update